



# MISERY OF BEDROOM TAX DEBT

Report by Richard Guttridge

**MORE** than half of the thousands of people in Dudley borough who have been hit by the so-called bedroom tax are currently in rent arrears.

Around 2,300 people in Dudley have seen their benefits cut under the policy introduced by the Coalition Government two years ago.

People living in housing association or council homes with spare bedrooms lost benefits as their properties were deemed to be 'under-occupied'.

Ministers said the policy was introduced to help free up housing stock for larger families but opponents have slammed it as a draconian measure which is hitting some of the most vulnerable people.

Figures released by Dudley Council revealed there are currently 2,366 people whose

benefits have been cut because they have at least one spare bedroom, with 1,299 of these in rent arrears.

The authority has been working to help some of those affected move to smaller accommodation, with 273 having secured new homes between April 2013 and March 2015.

Housing benefit was reduced by 14 per cent for households with one spare bedroom and a quarter for two.

The National Housing Federation has said the bedroom tax is 'heaping misery and hardship' on families who were already struggling.

## Survey

A survey produced by the group last year claimed one in seven families who have been affected were facing eviction.

Former Dudley Council leader David Sparks, a representative for Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood, said it was 'inevitable' that people would struggle when the measure was introduced.

The Labour councillor said: "The bedroom tax is a misguided and unjust tax and it is no wonder the whole thing is in a mess."

"It was inevitable that it was going to lead to people struggling to pay and the sooner it is abolished the better."

Wordsley's Councillor Derrick Hemingsley said some of the most vulnerable were being hit the hardest by the controversial measure.

He added: "I think it is a very unfair tax and it certainly needs to be revisited. It seems to attack the most vulnerable in society and there is no logic to most of the cases."

"I feel for elderly people because they have made a life in that community, and if they are going to be rehomed it needs to be in that particular area."



Councillor David Sparks

## Knife gang strike store in robbery terror

THREE men threatened staff at a supermarket with a knife and made off with cash.

CCTV images have been released to police following the robbery at Asda in Halesowen.

The robbers threatened staff at the store in the Cornbow Centre with a knife and demanded to be shown where the cash office was.

Once inside the offenders asked a female member of staff to open the safe and a 'considerable' amount of money was stolen, police say.

West Midlands Police have trawled CCTV footage and forensic experts visited the store.

Officers are keen to trace the three men and the car as soon as possible.

The suspects, two described as black and one as Asian and all around 5ft 8ins tall, made off with the cash in a blue Ford Focus. The robbery took place between 3.50am and 4.05am on September 17.

Officers said staff at the shop were badly shaken but were not injured.

They now hope anyone with information will come forward and call Detective Constable Caroline Morris on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## Profits soar to £30m at Brum airport

THE busiest ever year at Birmingham Airport helped profits rocket to more than £30 million as 9.9 million passengers passed through the terminals.

The site's profits rose to £30.6m in the 12 months to the end of March, from £27.9 million the year before – a 9.7 per cent increase.

The biggest boost came from travellers using its growing number of shops, restaurants and its car parks as turnover at the airport went up by £7m to £121.2m.

The airport made £69.9m from commercial income, up 8.2 per cent. That was twice the growth of its income from charges to airlines, for use of the airport facilities by both aircraft and passengers, which was up 4.1 per cent to £51.2m.

The airport's performance has been good news for its chief executive, Paul Kehoe, who has seen his pay package soar to £549,000 from £433,000 the year before.

This year has seen a string of record-breaking monthly passenger figures and more destinations, including American Airlines' flights to JFK in New York and the return of direct flights to China.

## Grateful Thomas can play it again



Recovery — 14-year-old Thomas Saddle returns to his love of music

## Amazing recovery

A MUSICAL teenager has made a dramatic recovery from a condition that left him feeling like 'a hunchback' and forced him to stop playing his instruments for months.

Thomas Saddle, aged 14, from Halesowen, was diagnosed with hyper-kypsis, which causes the spine to curve forwards excessively. If untreated, it can lead to fatal heart and lung problems.

The youngster from Cherry Orchard Avenue is a keen cellist and saxophonist, but had to refrain from playing both while he attempted to resolve his health problem. He spent 12 months on an NHS waiting list before seeing a consultant.

Thomas and his family were told spinal fusion surgery was his only option but this involved major risks

and a long recovery. Worried parents Claire and Mike decided to search for other options and discovered a clinic in London, Scoliosis SOS, who gave Thomas an exercise regime which has led to a dramatic improvement.

Thomas said: "There are not any words to describe how grateful I am. I no longer look like I am tilted forward. I feel like a normal teenager again, not some hunchback boy."

"If I hadn't had the treatment I would have been facing surgery and be looking at spending the next six months practically bed-bound."

Now Thomas has returned to his beloved music.

He added: "I can forget all my worries when playing music, without it I just felt lost."

## HERITAGE

### Witch is the way to go for hall visitors

A WITCHFINDER will be among the visitors at Sandwell's historic Haden Old Hall when it turns the clock back to the 1600s for a free family day out.

Sir William Pennymann's historical re-enactment society takes over the 17th century farmhouse on Sunday from 11am to 3pm. It is only open a few days each year.

The witchfinder will be among the costumed characters re-enacting life in 1643, ready to hunt anyone he suspects of involvement in the dark arts. Call (01384) 569444 or visit [www.sandwell.gov.uk/museumevents](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/museumevents) for details.

## SHOPPING

### Bag a freebie before 5p charge arrives

RE-USABLE cloth carrier bags are being offered to shoppers in Dudley, before the plastic bag levy arrives.

Dudley Ambassadors are giving away the bags, which promote shopping in the town. From October 5 large stores will charge at least 5p for every plastic bag they provide. Shoppers can avoid paying by taking their own bag.

Dudley's cloth bags are available from the Council House, Dudley Library and Dudley Council Plus while stocks last.

## CONCERTS

### Male voice choir is tuning up for shows

CRADLEY Heath Male Voice Choir is set to delight audiences with several concerts in the area this month and next.

The choir will perform at Quinton Parish Church on Saturday and then at Dudley Wood Methodist Church, on October 10. Both at 7.30pm.

The choir will also sing at the Methodist Centre in Dudley Port, Tividale, on October 17 and at Fairfield Village Hall, Bromsgrove, on November 6.

Tickets for all of the choir's concerts can be bought on the door or in advance by calling 07790 198156.

## INSIDE

### DEADLY HAUL IN BLADE BINS



PAGE 6



The pet lovers pet store

# THE BIG PET STORE

0121 550 9095

Free Parking - Open 7 Days

Dogs Welcome In Store - Tropical Fish Specialists

[www.thebigpetstore.co.uk](http://www.thebigpetstore.co.uk)

Unit 3, Hareward Rise, Halesowen B62 8AN



<b>CONTENTS</b>	
<b>MEMORY LANE</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>MARK ANDREWS</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>LETTERS</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>DANIEL WAINWRIGHT</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>THE FAST TICKET</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>PROPERTY</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>MOTORING</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>SPORT</b>	<b>35 &amp; 36</b>
<b>CONTACT US</b>	

**EDITORIAL:**  
Tel: 01384 353201/01384 353205  
E-mail: dudley.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

**SPORTS:**  
Tel: 01902 319453  
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

**PHOTOGRAPHIC:**  
Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

**ADVERTISING:** Nicola Cope  
Tel: 01902 319573  
E-mail: nicola.cope@expressandstar.co.uk

**PROPERTY:** Marguerita Finnegan  
Tel: 01902 319627  
E-mail: marguerita.finnegan@expressandstar.co.uk

**MOTORING:** Liz Barratt  
Tel: 01384 353244  
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

**CLASSIFIED:**  
Tel: 01902 317878  
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

**DISTRIBUTION:** Paul Jones  
Tel: 01902 319990  
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

Halesowen  
**CHRONICLE**

**51-53 Queen Street**  
**Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES**  
Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm  
[www.yourchronicle.com](http://www.yourchronicle.com)

**DON'T MISS YOUR**  
**Express & Star**

**EVERY DAY**

**PETER RHODES**

The man who takes a sideways look at life

**EVERY SATURDAY**

**NIGEL HASTILOW**

He always tackles the hot topics head-on

# T-shirt faker is jailed for 12 months

FAKE celebrity T-shirts featuring the biggest names in pop — including One Direction — raked in more than £61,000 for a jewellery shop owner as part of a rogue printing operation.

Illegal merchandise sold over the internet also included bracelets and hoodies.

They carried logos of stars including Jessie J, Justin Bieber, Little Mix, The Wanted and JLS.

Russell Potts, 43, was caught with the goods in a snoop carried out by Trading Standards officers at his pawnbroker business Gold Direct Midlands Ltd, Cradley Heath.

Potts, of Tresham Road, Kingswinford, director of the business, admitted seven counts of trading

in counterfeit goods and was jailed for 12 months at Wolverhampton Crown Court. He had made more than 5,000 sales of the counterfeit goods. The dodgy items were spotted for sale via online auction site eBay. Along with counterfeit goods, stocks of blank t-shirts, clocks and bracelets, computer equipment and documents were seized at the premises in High Street.

Mr Mark Jackson, prosecuting for Sandwell Council, said: "The defendant may have been operating a legitimate business concerned in the sale of watches and jewellery but he was also operating a counterfeiting business from the same premises."

"Analysis of the defendant's eBay and PayPal

accounts showed that he made some 5,236 sales of counterfeit goods worth £61,177. The loss to the trade mark holder is substantially more than at £171,073," Mr Jackson added.

Solicitor advocate Mr Stephen Hamblett, defending, said Potts set up the illegal activity when gold sales suffered a down turn in late 2010.

He owns 10 properties including a pub and employs seven people. Mr Hamblett added that the 43-year-old father had raised about £10,000 for charities and had taken part in the London and Paris marathons.

Under the Proceeds of Crime Act he must pay the council £61,177, plus £13,250 costs.

# Argos looks to fill up to 377 temporary festive jobs

ARGOS is looking to recruit 377 seasonal workers to work across its stores in the West Midlands to deal with the Christmas rush.

The company wants 335 customer helpers to support Argos' 30 stores in the area to meet demand for toys, video games, technology and other popular gifts over the festive season.

In addition 42 drivers "with great customer service skills" are wanted to work as part of Argos' store to customer door distribution service during the peak shopping season, which it expects to be highly popular with customers looking for same-day delivery.

The retail chain said initial contracts for all vacancies were around three months, but held out the hope of some jobs becoming permanent at the end of the season.

Recruits will be offered a minimum of 10 hours per week with a minimum of six hours per week for weekend staff.

The recruitment is part of a nationwide hunt by Argos for 9,000 Christmas staff, with jobs available at stores across the UK.

Across the West Midlands Argos has stores in Dudley, Walsall, Oldbury, Merry Hill, Wolverhampton, Bentley Bridge in Wednesfield, Bilston, West Bromwich, Rugeley, Kidderminster, two in Cannock and another two in Stafford.

Leigh Baxter, regional manager for the West Midlands at Argos said: "Christmas is the busiest and most exciting time to be in retail."

Apply at [www.argosxmasjobs.co.uk](http://www.argosxmasjobs.co.uk).

# Hospital spent £6m on temps as 250 jobs cut

**THE NHS trust that runs Russells Hall Hospital spent more than £6 million on agency staff at the same time as axing 250 posts.**

Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust forked out £6,325,792 for agency workers between April 2014 and March this year.

But bosses said spending on agency staff had gone down from the previous year.

New figures, revealed by a Freedom of Information request, revealed agency staff clocked up a total of 139,228 hours during that period. They worked 26,622 hours in medical and dental areas of the trust at a cost of £2,415,940.

Agency staff were also used in qualified nursing roles for 65,216 hours to the tune of £2,622,738 and clocked up 7,842 hours in scientific, technical and therapy areas at a cost of £348,934. They were used for administrative and clerical work for 5,418 hours, costing £377,058, and in health care assistant roles for 34,130 hours, costing £561,121.

The money was spent at the same time the trust axed more than 250 posts in an effort to save £7.5m following Government funding cuts. Two hundred positions were scrapped by not filling vacancies.

## Shortage

Dudley North MP Ian Austin said: "Across the country the bill for agency staff has risen over the past three years. At the same time more than half of NHS trusts, including Dudley Group, are in deficit. It is due to a shortage of staff and caused by the Government cutting the number of training places for nurses and staff."

Chief executive of the Dudley Group Paula Clark said the trust had reduced its agency costs from £7.13m in 2013/14.

"We are committed to ensuring all our patients receive the best possible care. Patient safety is always an absolute priority," she said. "We always try to cover vacant shifts from our own staff bank before employing agency staff."

"We make no apologies for making sure our services are safe. There is a national shortage of qualified nurses, specialist doctors and other health professionals. To make sure patients are safe and cared for by appropriately skilled staff, we sometimes use agency staff to cover shortages."

## A maze in view for World Cup



**An aerial view of the rugby-themed maze that has been attracting crowds at Sandwell Valley** *Picture: Keith Edwards*

THOUSANDS of visitors have tackled this Rugby World Cup-themed maize maze in the Black Country.

As this aerial photograph shows, a rugby player with a ball in his hand has now appeared in the maze at Sandwell Valley Country Park.

The Forge Mill Farm maize maze

opened in August in homage to the Rugby World Cup which is taking place on home turf this year.

The towering plants have now grown to more than 6ft in height. The maze has been growing in a nine-acre field at the site, off Forge Lane, since May.

Cherie Lumby, commercial manager at Sandwell Valley, said it was one of their most popular creations to date.

The maze has paths which lead visitors to clues on try boards.

Like last year, the maize will be harvested in November as feed for animals living in around Sandwell Valley and its farm.

# More than 100 homes to be built

MORE than 100 homes are to be built on the site of a former college in Rowley Regis.

The former St Michael's Business and Enterprise College site in Thorne Road will be demolished after councillors approved plans submitted by Redrow Homes to build 123 properties.

The building has been empty since the college moved to a new site in 2010.

Developers say 80 of the properties would be four-bedroom houses with 34 three-bedroom houses, plus nine would be flats.

Councillor Steve Trow said it was 'great that the site was being brought back into use'.

Sandwell Council unanimously approved the plan.

# Landmark pub is to be demolished

A LANDMARK pub in Dudley will be demolished in December, after approval was given to bulldoze the building.

Plans to replace the King Arthur, next to Birmingham New Road, with an Aldi supermarket and 94-space car park got the green-light earlier this year.

**ABLE & BROMLEY CARPETS/BEDS**  
WHOLESALE & RETAIL WAREHOUSE

**UPTO 75% OFF** *Sofa's, Vinyls and Laminates* Est 1978

Disabled. Can't Get Out. OAP  
Or anyone needing that extra help?  
**Can't come to us - We'll come to you**  
We will bring 100's of carpet samples, sofa and bed brochures to your door

WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T  
Remove and take away old carpets/beds  
Move heavy furniture and shave doors  
**PLUS FREE FITTING ON SELECTED RANGES**  
Terms and conditions apply.

Unit D Dormston Trading Estate, Burton Road, Upper Gornal  
[www.ablecarpets.co.uk](http://www.ablecarpets.co.uk)  
**FREEPHONE 0800 0853747** **COVERS ALL AREAS**

Quarry Bank • Stourbridge  
Lye • Pedmore  
Wollescote • Briery Hill  
Kinver • Wordsley

Adrian Bromley  
**01902 880541**

**Before**

**Est. 1973**  
**Wollaston Bathrooms Ltd**

**After**

**Fully Fitted Bathrooms**  
From £3000 inc VAT  
900mm x 900mm Quadrant Tray and Shower Valve, W.C. Basin and Pedestal with Tap, 18 Sqm Wall Tiles + 3 Sqm Floor Tiles!

**DISABILITY ADAPATIONS**  
"Adapting your bathroom for you."  
A wide range of bath and showering options are available, all designed to make bathing and showering easier and safer for you.  
"Save" you may be entitled to zero rated VAT

**Visit our showroom**  
**FREE** No Obligation Survey and Quotation **Supply Only** Service Available  
**Trade enquiries welcome**

9 High Street Wollaston DY8 4NH  
Tel: 01384 374237 or 0800 1582456  
email: [enquiries@wollastonbathrooms.ltd.uk](mailto:enquiries@wollastonbathrooms.ltd.uk)

**Open:**  
Monday-Friday 8.00am-5.00pm  
Saturday 9.00am-4.00pm

**HOMECLAD**

- FASCIAS
- GUTTERING
- SOFFITS
- CLADDING
- TILE EDGING

**BEST VALUE IN THE MIDLANDS**  
PREMIUM PRODUCTS EXPERTLY FITTED BY A LOCAL FAMILY COMPANY

**SPECIAL OFFER**  
FREE guttering and downpipes

**0800 73 13 946**  
CALL FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTE

**8 ABBOTSFORD DRIVE DUDLEY DY1 2HD**

**Broken Dentures?**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**1 hour denture repair service**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**New Dentures**  
available & made at...

**The Dental Shop**  
Est. 1981  
**01384 413444**

201-203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, W. Mids. B64 6HE  
[www.the-dental-shop.co.uk](http://www.the-dental-shop.co.uk)

**FOOTWORKS**  
Chiropody Clinic

- Full range of services with disabled friendly access
- Nail Cutting and Trimming
- Diabetic Footcare
- Corns and Calluses

**01384 413444**

201-203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill B64 6HE  
[www.footworkschiroprpodists.co.uk](http://www.footworkschiroprpodists.co.uk)



NEWS IN BRIEF

## Ewes are stolen from village field

SHEEP rustlers have struck in a village near Halesowen, police have said. Two female sheep were stolen from a field off Uffmoor Lane, in Romsley, in recent weeks. They were noticed missing on Saturday at 1.45pm but could have been stolen in the previous two weeks, the owners say.

Both ewes had green marks on their backs and white faces. The sheep are valued at £340 each. Anyone with information about the theft is asked to call West Mercia Police on 101.

## Students get grant for green tourism

A £18,000 grant has been awarded to allow students to work on a new travel assignment with foreign schools.

Halesowen College is working with two schools, in Italy and Spain, to boost environmentally friendly tourism. The group will be creating an online travel agency looking at 'green travel'.

Pupils from ITE Tambosi-Battisti in Trento, Italy, and IES Francisco Ayala in Granada will be visiting Halesowen in October to go on tours specially designed by the college's Travel and Tourism students.

## £47k funds breaks for young carers

A CHARITY supporting young carers is to receive £47,000 funding to safeguard one its key services.

Sandwell Young Carers will use the cash to run a residential breaks programme for carers aged between five and 18 over the next three years.

The money has been provided by the West Brom building society and will provide six trips per year for young people who look after a family member. The charity's Tracey Smith said: "We are extremely grateful."

## History talk on how to impress a queen

AN EVENT fit for a queen will be the subject of a talk at the next meeting of Stourbridge Historical Society on October 15.

Gillian White will talk on Robert Dudley, Queen Elizabeth and the spectacular Kenilworth Entertainment of 1575, when the 1st Earl of Leicester entertained the Queen for 19 days at his country seat Kenilworth castle.

The meeting is at Stourbridge Town Hall at 7.30pm. For details visit [www.stourbridgehistoricalsociety.com](http://www.stourbridgehistoricalsociety.com)

## Homes on factory site

FACTORY units in Cradley Heath could be demolished to make way for housing. The proposal is to pull down buildings at Cradley Heath Factory Centre and a demolition notice is being considered by Sandwell Council. Councillor Julie Webb said: "The housing scheme is needed."

# Nursery has action plan to continue improvement

A NURSERY in Rowley Regis has been told to improve by Ofsted after an inspection.

Rowley Owls Nursery, run by Rowley Hall Primary School, was ranked as requiring improvement. But that is better than its previous rating of inadequate from inspectors earlier this year.

The nursery requires improvement in meeting children's needs and in effectiveness of leadership and management, according to the most recent report.

Nursery bosses said they were pleased Ofsted recognised improvements had been made and an action plan had been established for continued improvement.

The report stated: "The quality of teaching is not consistently good."

"Activities are not always planned sufficiently well to ensure good levels of challenge. Consequently, children are not always supported to make as much progress as they can."

Inspectors said the leadership at the nursery had improved since their previous visit in February with staff making 'a concerted effort' to address weaknesses identified at that time.

Nicola Stanley, headteacher at Rowley Hall Primary, said: "We are pleased that Ofsted recognise that we are improving things at our Rowley Owls Nursery."

"Staff have worked really hard to make changes and good progress has been made. We have an action plan in place to make further improvements."

# Shots fired from car at two homes

GUNSHOTS were fired from a car at two homes in Halesowen, say police.

Properties came under fire in Long Lane and Narrow Lane last Friday at around 10.15pm. Police say it was fortunate nobody was hurt and have launched an investigation.

Detectives are appealing to hear from anyone who saw a blue Ford Focus in the area at the time.

Detective Peter Miller, from the force's CID, said: "We continue to piece together the circumstances around the events of Friday night and are tawling CCTV to gather evidence."

"It is only by chance that no-one was seriously hurt. If anyone saw this car or can help the investigation then please call me or one of the team on 101."

# Ill singer forced to cancel UK tour

AMERICAN pop star Kelly Clarkson has cancelled her UK tour, including a date at Birmingham's Genting Arena on November 14. Doctors have told the singer she must remain on vocal rest for the remainder of the year.

# Green light for £350m super hospital

A £350 million super hospital - with 670 beds and 15 operating theatres - has been given the green light to be built in Sandwell.

The long-awaited Midland Metropolitan Hospital cleared its final hurdle last Wednesday after being backed by members of Sandwell Council's planning committee.

The super hospital is expected to open in Grove Lane, Smethwick, in late 2018 and will serve more than half a million people living in Sandwell and West Birmingham. Construction is expected to begin in January.

The creation of the Midland Metropolitan Hospital will bring emergency and healthcare services in Sandwell onto one location.

The modern hospital features a glimmering glass roof, floating sculptures, futuristic lighting and gardens for patients and visitors. Toby Lewis, chief executive of the Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust, said: "This is a pivotal moment for the half million local people who will have access to this single specialist emergency hospital, with state-of-the-art facilities which will improve outcomes for patients."

"It is a strong go-ahead towards our continued focus to offer truly integrated care for our communities."

"In December we will sign the contract with The Hospital Company and move to cut the first sod in early January."

Sandwell Council leader Darren Cooper said the new hospital would provide the borough with a major boost, bringing more jobs as well as improved healthcare.

The new hospital will also have a number of innovative design features including a fully enclosed winter garden and car parking within the hospital building on the ground and first floors to create a secure environment.

There will be a hi-tech critical care unit as well as dedicated neonatal, paediatric beds, coronary care, and adult acute assessment units.

There will also be MRI and CT scanners along with ultrasound facilities and outpatient clinics for maternity care and children

# Schools get permission to become academies

TWO primary schools in Dudley borough are to become academies after final agreements were approved by council bosses.

Bromley-Pensnett Primary School, in Pensnett, and Halesowen's Manor Way Primary School will both open as academies from today (Thursday).

Both sites will be operated by trusts after Dudley Council agreed to the transfer. Councillor Ian Cooper, cabinet member for children's services, confirmed the necessary permission had now been rubber-stamped.

Bromley-Pensnett will be sponsored by the DRB Ignite Education Trust while Manor Way will be sponsored by Windsor Academy Trust.

The trusts, acting through management companies, will operate the academies on the same sites as the old schools.

On the Bromley-Pensnett site, a children's centre there will be leased back to the council for a period of three years. A specialist early years nursery, which serves the borough, is also located on the site and will be leased back to the council for a period of five years.

There are 49 staff, both teaching and local government, at Bromley-Pensnett and 36 at Manor Way. All will be transferred to the trusts as employees.

## Peppercorn

The grant of a lease for both school sites will be at a peppercorn rate.

Mrs Dawn Betteridge, headteacher of Manor Way Primary, said: "We are now making all the necessary preparations and getting everything ready for the change to academy status."

Helen Coles, headteacher of Bromley-Pensnett Primary, said in a letter to parents: "I want what is best for the children and families. I think you know that I am committed to our school and passionate about providing the very best education for our children."

"I do believe that conversion to an academy would give us increased flexibility of the budget to develop a curriculum that better meets the needs of the children."

They are the latest schools in the Dudley borough to have changed to academy status.

Previously King Edward VI College and Ridgewood High School joined forces to form the King Edward's Stourbridge Academy Trust. Redhill School, in Stourbridge, has also become an academy.

## Walking football strides forward



Mayor Steve Waltho with 'keeper Derrick Hemmingsley and team mate deputy mayor Mohammed Hanif

TEAMS of over 40s got competitive during a waling football competition which was launched in a bid to encourage older people to become more active.

Eight teams battled it out for supremacy at Wordsley Park on Saturday, while being careful not to break into a run, in the one-off tournament featuring sides from across the Dudley borough. It is hoped the success of the event will lead to more competitions.

Wordsley councillor Derrick Hemmingsley, who played in a Dudley Council team, said: "It was absolutely fantastic, the turnout was beyond expectation. The weather was fantastic and it was a great competition, all the teams want to do it again. It was a real success."

Russ Smith, a coach from the Birmingham FA was among spectators at the tournament which was set up by the park's Friends group in partnership with Dudley Council and Age UK. A team from Beechcroft in Halesowen were crowned the winners.

He said: "It's great to see football being used for all age groups at Wordsley Park, from waling football to under 7s. It's great work by all involved."

Councillor Hemmingsley said he hoped the competition would prove to be a 'launch pad' for more waling football events across the Black Country.

# October Installations, Massive Discounts

UP TO

# 50% OFF

70mm A Rated frames and glass, free Argon gas

**West Midlands DOUBLE GLAZING**

**Unit 19 Middlemore Industrial Estate, Middlemore Road, B21 0AY**

**0800 080 7076**  
**0121 532 0784**

[www.westmidlandsglazing.com](http://www.westmidlandsglazing.com)

**AUTUMN OFFERS**

**3 Windows**  
Was £890 Now £680

**4 Windows**  
Was £1170 Now £890

**5 Windows**  
Was £1290 Now £1100

**6 Windows**  
Was £1500 Now £1380

T&Cs apply

**Bespoke requirements are no problem**

- Windows
- composite windows & doors
- Conservatories
- Orangeries
- Porches
- Extensions, Carports & Canopies
- Bi-fold & uPVC doors
- Timber Doors and Windows
- Repair service

**Also Available - Guardian Tiled Roof System (LABC approved)**

**Friendly, personal touch and jobs completed to high standards**

10 YEAR Guarantee



## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



A READER tells me he heard a radio interviewer ask the managing director of a chain of take-away sandwich shops whether his company's expansion plans would mean new jobs. The boss replied that there would "certainly be a number of roles to fill."

OUR phone line is kaput again. The recorded message from BT says I can keep up with the engineers' progress on the internet. Listen, if I could keep up with the engineers' progress on the internet, I wouldn't need the bleedin' engineers, would I?

I THOROUGHLY enjoyed the latest dark and gritty Scandinavian murder series, Beck (BBC4), especially the little greeting the Swedes use at the end of an affectionate chat or phone conversation: "Kyss," meaning kiss. That could catch on.

WINTER draws on. I have bought a new pair of old-fashioned cotton flannel pyjamas, having become utterly fed up with the modern T-shirt and baggy trousers equivalent. Proper pyjamas have long sleeves and fleecy linings. They also have a breast pocket, although I cannot imagine what for.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury is offering a cottage at Lambeth Palace to a family from Syria. Only a curmudgeon would point out that London already has about 1,000 folk sleeping rough who might have appreciated a warm room in Lambeth.



IT'S safe to assume the Daily Mail wants David Cameron out and George Osborne in. Why else would it serialise Lord Ashcroft's bitter biography of the PM, warts (pigs) and all?

AS a general rule, when a politician's (alleged) youthful follies are exposed, we heave a sigh and say, "Well, we've all done that, haven't we?" Not this time, Mr Cameron.

A SURVEY reveals that two-thirds of children rarely write letters. As one who has barely handwritten anything since being plonked behind a typewriter in 1969, I am not surprised. Surrounded by iPhones and suchlike gizmos, who would willingly reach for a pen and paper? Meanwhile, another survey reveals that few children play with hoops and sticks any more and hardly any have had a ride in a Zeppelin. And that bear clutching a roll of Andrex is still heading for the forest.

I CANNOT vouch for this one but a reader swears he heard an arachnophobia expert on the radio telling listeners: "If you want to know more about spiders, visit our website."

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Woman faked £20 notes to escape debt

A WOMAN who tried to get out of a drug debt by printing her own money has been jailed for two years. Danielle Jones, of Westgate, Oldbury, produced fake £20 notes on her scanner at home, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. The 29-year-old then stopped strangers in the street and asked them to give her change for the bogus cash.

She also used the counterfeit

money to pay for takeaways, revealed Mr Robert Edwards, prosecuting. Jones had been made the subject of a community order for a similar scam in Derbyshire two months earlier. She was spotted passing off the fake cash in the Black Country on January 3 when she was given two £10 notes by a woman she had stopped in the street. Moments later the victim realised that she had been duped.

Ten days later staff at the Tesco supermarket at Burnt Tree in Dudley called police after complaints about a woman who was asking people to change £20 notes in the shop. On February 22 she gave a delivery driver two counterfeit £20s for a takeaway but was caught out after pulling a similar stunt on April 11.

Police raided her home, discovered the scanner and a sheet full of £20

copies waiting to be cut to size. Jones had produced at least £360 worth of counterfeit currency. Jones admitted making and passing counterfeit notes and asked for nine further offences to be taken into consideration. Mrs Amanda Jenkins, defending, said Jones and her partner had been attacked over her drug debts and had been told she would be targeted again if she did not hand over the money.

# Rogue trader fined after showing false car mileage

A ROGUE car dealer from the Black Country sold a car which had nearly double the amount of miles on the clock than it was advertised with.

Arvinder Singh Gill found himself before Dudley magistrates after the car's new owner began having problems with it and contacted trading standards.

It subsequently came to light that the BMW 316 had done 133,000 miles rather than the advertised 75,000 miles.

Gill, of Newbridge Crescent, Wolverhampton, further misled the buyer as the MOT certificate provided with the car omitted several defects.

The advert also failed to state the vehicle had previously been declared a Category D insurance write-off.

Gill, who trades as Autodesign and Auto Elite, pleaded guilty to four offences under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations. He was fined £2,000 at Dudley Magistrates Court on September 17.

The 36-year-old was also ordered to pay costs of £3,458.80, compensation of £625 to the consumer and £50 victim surcharge.

Dudley councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member responsible for trading standards, said: "Trading Standards officers investigate complaints where second hand vehicles are not described fully or accurately because it is vital that consumers receive the information they need to make an informed choice about whether to purchase. We will not hesitate to take action."

# Petition against shop plan at pub

MORE than 250 people have signed a petition against revised plans to build a store on a pub car park in Cradley Heath.

Sandwell Council has already thrown out one scheme put forward by New River Retail for the Haden Cross site on Halesowen Road. But the firm has submitted fresh proposals, saying it has addressed issues previously raised by councillors.

The Friends of Haden Cross collected more than 250 signatures in two weeks for a petition which will be submitted to the council this week.

The group will hold a public meeting on October 13 at the Haden Cross from 7.30pm.

It is expected that the planning application will be decided by councillors on October 21.

# Motorist has heart attack at the wheel

THE driver of a car which overturned in Brierley Hill suffered a heart attack at the wheel. The man was taken to Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital after the incident on Venture Way at around 12.30pm on Wednesday, September 24.

# Driver jailed for firing fake pistol in traffic

by Deborah Hardiman

**A DRINK driver from Halesowen who fired a fake gun on a busy dual carriageway has been jailed for more than two years.**

Herjinder Singh Fagura, 43, fired blank rounds that were heard by frightened motorists in queueing traffic on Tollhouse Way on April 15.

Firearms officers found him in a car park with an imitation revolver and a bottle of Baileys in his vehicle.

The father was jailed for two years for possession of an imitation firearm and two months for driving with excess alcohol. He was banned from the road for three and a half years.

Prosecuting barrister Mr Jasbir Mann said stunned driver Kirsty Forrester was among several who saw what happened and reported the terrifying incident to police.

"She says she was driving along Tollhouse Way in Smethwick when she heard a bang. She was unsure what it was at first and looked round to see what it was. At the rear she saw a car and in the driver's seat was the defendant. She said that he had in his right hand a silver grey coloured pistol. She was looking through her rear view mirror and it looked to her that he was aiming the gun at the back of her car.

"When the lights turned green she turned into Rolfe Street and waited until the defendant's car carried on in the direction of Birmingham," Mr Mann said.

Firearms officers were called and Fagura was eventually found in a car park near Ladywood Middleway. His breath test measured 68 microgrammes. The legal limit is 35.

Defending barrister Mr Gurdeep Garcha said Fagura, of Blakedown Road, had at the first opportunity admitted possession of an imitation firearm and driving with excess alcohol.

Judge Mark Eades at Wolverhampton Crown Court sentenced Fagura to 26 months. He also ordered destruction of the imitation revolver.

## All aboard at museum's boat bonanza



Derek Jervis was among those who brought his traditional narrowboat to the Black Country Living Museum

IT was all aboard at a boat festival marking the history of travel on the region's canals and rivers.

Hundreds of families arrived at the Black Country Living Museum to see the vessels which had arrived as part of the Historic Boaters' Gathering.

Visitors to the Dudley attraction experienced what life was like on the water during the 18th and 19th centuries. Volunteers led talks, while people were also allowed to jump on board some of the boats and take a look around. A 134-year-old tug boat was among the older attractions on show.

There were demonstrations and activities to keep families entertained during the two-day event.

Andrew Hoyle, one of the boat owners moored at the

museum for the event, said he rarely missed an opportunity to take his boat, which was built in 1925, to historical events up and down the country.

The 59-year-old, from Fradley Junction in Staffordshire, welcomed visitors onto his boat. He said: "It was excellent. There were lots of people, lots of families. There were a full range of boats from various periods."

There were more than 40 historic boats on display.

Another of them was Derek Jervis' large Woolwich boat, built in 1936. The 56-year-old said: "It has been fabulous, there have been a lot of people around and everyone has been getting into the spirit of it.

"This is a big event in the boating world and we all enjoy it immensely."

## Concept BLINDS

**UP TO 50% OFF ALL BLINDS**

Vertical & Roller Blinds  
New season fabrics now available

Child Safety Features Fitted Free of Charge

**5 YEAR GUARANTEE**

Also available

- Romans • Pleated
- Conservatory Roof Blinds
- Wood Venetians
- Venetian Blinds
- Curved Tracks for Bay Windows

**FREEPHONE 0800 5875279**  
Open Seven Days a Week  
**0121 429 3169**

**FREE Home Quote. FAST Delivery**

Repairs and Upgrades  
Insurance Work  
Failed Units  
Broken Locks  
Door Panels  
Letter Boxes  
Sticking Doors  
Handles and Mechanisms

## A-Zee Fix

DOUBLE GLAZING INSTALLATIONS & REPAIRS

Telephone: 01384 259761 Mobile: 07769 975841

- 70mm Internally Glazed High Security Frames
- 28mm Pilkington 'K' Units
- Document L Compliant
- Shoot Bolt Locking
- Sight Line Glazing
- Secured By Design PAS023 / PAS024

Repairs and Upgrades  
Insurance Work  
Failed Units  
Broken Locks  
Door Panels  
Letter Boxes  
Sticking Doors  
Handles and Mechanisms

White  
Light Oak  
Rosewood  
Woodgrain on White

**ALL WORK GUARANTEED**  
**PHONE TODAY FOR A FREE QUOTATION**

**FENSA**  
Registration No. 2399

## Isn't it time for a New Garage Door?

With the ESSATI SALE, the decision's made so much easier

Get top of the range electric 'remote controlled' insulated aluminium rolling garage door - operated by hand held 'keyring' handset. It is currently reduced from a RRP of £2250 - to an amazing £799 inc VAT & fitting.

## NOW JUST £799!

**INCLUDING VAT & FREE FITTING**

**65% OFF**

**Price includes:**

- Remote Control & keyring/handset
- Includes free internal manual override
- All doors conform to BS5836 safety standards
- While on standard, other colours available - ask for details
- Extremely secure roller-bearing system
- Full 12 month warranty
- Buttons rubber weatherseal
- Price is for any sized single sized door up to 16'6" wide
- Double glazed doors available on request

**CALL 01245 396910**

This special offer includes free fitting. The offer on our website does not include free fitting. To benefit from this offer you should call 01245 396910

**www.essatigaragedoors.co.uk**

## Black Country Glazing

**Est 1987**

**Manufacturers & Installers of windows, doors & conservatories**

A rated Windows As Standard

**10 Year Guarantee**

**FREE QUOTATIONS**

**Which?**  
Trusted trader

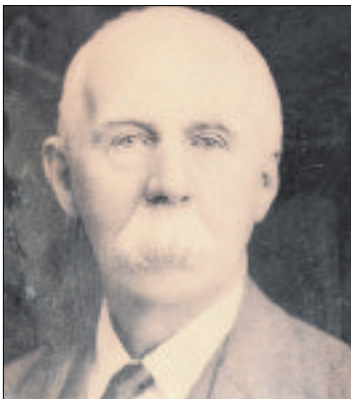
Station Street, Cradley Heath, B64 6AJ  
**01384 566100**  
**www.blackcountryglazing.com**  
Energy efficient windows that won't cost the earth

**PROCLIC20** **certass** **FENSA**





Life member Walter in 1973, when he was manager of John Harper Football Club



John W. Hunt, founder of Chillington Tool Co



Short Heath United FC, one of the teams in the first year of the J.W. Hunt Cup, in 1926



Walter, of Wolverhampton, with the cup, at the Pavilion



JW Hunt Cup life member Walter Wakeman, in the 1980s

# Lots of celebrations and surprises as JW Hunt Cup hits 90-year milestone

LAUGHTER and surprises were the name of the game at the 90th anniversary celebration of the historic JW Hunt Cup that sees amateur footballers battle it out for the right to appear at Molineux.

Launched in 1926, the competition has raised £308,000 to help blind residents since its creation.

The recent gathering, at the Goodyear Pavilion, in Stafford Road, Wolverhampton, was part of a series of activities being held to mark the milestone.

Proceeds from the popular competition are donated to Beacon Centre for the Blind.

At the event the competition's former secretary and treasurer Walter Wakeman was presented with an engraved glass decanter in recognition of his more than 35 years service to the football cup.

## MEMORY LANE

Report by Deborah Hardiman

Mr Wakeman, 86, of Lodge Road, Oxley, was invited to become secretary in 1985 replacing Peter Crane, before taking on the treasurer's role in 1994 – a post he gave up only last year.

The trophy is named in memory of John William Hunt, a businessman and benefactor who founded the local Chillington Tool Company and was a supporter of charities in the area.

### Tireless

Mr Wakeman, also a retired referee, says: "The whole idea for the JW Hunt Cup was to raise money for the Blind Institute that was based almost opposite Molineux in Waterloo Road.

The first final was held in 1927 when it

cost only pence to go and watch. "It is wonderful that the competition has been running for so long.

"It's not just about me. A lot of other people have been tireless in their work for it."

He was presented with the special gift by Wolverhampton Wanderers club secretary Richard Skirrow, who praised him for his dedication to the sport.

Teams that compete come from a 40-mile radius from the Birmingham, Staffordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire Football Associations and the final is held at Molineux.

The inaugural winners were Short Heath United, who beat Cannon Iron.

The silver trophy which has distinctive 'crocodile' design handles has been won by Tividale FC for the last two years and was on display at the event along with memorabilia collected by the cup's committee over the decades, including winning team photographs, players' badges, and medals.

Chillington's trademark was the 'crocodile', and this was incorporated into the cup.

Cup president Alex Hamil, of Ettingshall Park, said: "We are very proud to be in our 90th year and are looking forward to celebrating our 100th anniversary.

"There used to be thousands of these competitions all over the place, now there are just a few so I'm very proud to see still going we hope to see it carry on for many years to come.

"Without people like Walter this competition just wouldn't happen. We appreciate everything that he's done."

Around 60 supporters of the cup including referees and former players attended the event that included a buffet and a raffle with proceeds going the Beacon Centre for the Blind, which is based in Sedgley Road East.

Earlier this year an exhibition of cup memorabilia was held at the Black Country Living Museum.

MASSIVE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON OCTOBER INSTALLATIONS

No deposits or stage payments, you only pay when the installation has been completed

Visit one of the largest conservatory and window showrooms in the UK

Supplied & Fitted... across the Midlands

Repair Service Available



# VERY BIG RYDALE

## Autumn SALE

### RIGHT NOW

**Windows & Conservatories, Orangeries, Porches, Fascias & Soffit Boards**

Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry.

No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, and that's why we have been in business for more than 30 years.

Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen B62 9LS  
**FREEPHONE 0800 917 6060**  
**www.rydalewindows.co.uk**

**Open Weekdays: 9am to 5.30pm**  
**Saturday: 9am to 4pm**  
**Sunday Closed**



Make the **RIGHT** decision this Autumn and give **Rydale** a ring...



IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



# New Street is better – except as a station

ON Friday, I took a day off work to see the revamped Birmingham New Street Station.

From the outside I thought it a little underwhelming, to be brutally honest. Smart and business-like, certainly, but not architecturally imposing. More London Euston than the truly great stations such as King's Cross or St Pancras.

But indoors? Fantastic. A huge glass dome casts a pool of natural light on the hordes below. There is a huge range of shops to cater for every need and budget. Then, there is an excellent range of cafes and restaurants, and that nasty old pub has now been replaced by a hip and stylish bar.

In short the new station is now a destination in itself.

There's just one problem though. Once one has finished sipping Prosecco in the atrium, having perused the contents of the John Lewis list, and devoured the exquisite range of cakes and ice creams, it is down the same old escalator into the same old dark, cramped and crowded New Street below. The same old drab, depressing platforms, the same old dingy lighting, the same old New Street.

The new station is better in every way than the old New Street, save for one aspect: being a railway station. On that score, it is still a big disappointment.

LIKE most men, any visit to a retail establishment must first be preceded with a battle plan, the aim being to avoid any unwanted conversation with sales assistants whatsoever.

Chaps will know what I'm talking about; wait until other people enter the shop the same time as you do, move quickly but quietly, know what you are looking for before you go in, and don't whatever you do, make eye contact with any young man in a sharp suit.

However, during my visit to the New Street's Grand Central last week, it appears staff have come up with a cunning new ruse to combat us stealth shoppers. Now dressed in casual clothes, without any discernible identification, they mingle with the shoppers and gently engage them in conversation.

It also seems that some of the higher-end retailers have stopped putting prices on their clothes. Presumably in the hope that people will ask a member of staff, and then feel obliged to pay the extortionately high price for fear of being thought of as rude or tight. Yeah, right.

As I've said many times before. These Brummies. They don't understand Black Country folk, do they?

I THINK the least said about David Cameron and the Pig-gate allegations the better. Except that a horrible image comes into my head every time I tuck into a packet of pork scratchings.



The haul of 406 'binned' weapons at Handsworth West station



A close-up view of one of the weapons – a knuckleduster



Guns among the weapons put on display last week

# Bins move hope for life without the knife

Hundreds of deadly weapons have been handed in after bins were put out across the region. **ROB GOLLEDGE reports**

LIKE a terrifying piece of modern art, 406 deadly weapons are displayed side by side for the first time.

A serrated knuckleduster designed to maim victims, an intimidating 20-inch machete, and a fierce jigsaw blade are among the horrifying arsenal taken off the West Midlands streets in the past six months.

"They live in a life of perceived fear," says Mike Smith, founder of Word 4 Weapons, describing those who surrendered the haul in 11 deposit bins across Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

The aim is to rid the streets of these lethal killers. But expectations are realistic.

"In the Bible, it refers to people who live by the sword, and end up dying by the sword, and the same applies now," he said. "Carrying a weapon does not save a life, it takes a life. The bins are not going to solve it alone."

## Surrendered

"People have been killing each other since Cain and Abel and that is not going to stop overnight. But it is part of the puzzle."

There were 406 weapons surrendered in the latest cache. But more than 15,000 have been collected across the West Midlands and London by this pioneering voluntary scheme since 2009. Mr Smith added: "I started in 2007 and the reason was that I saw so many young people lose their lives because of knives. We could never do this on our own. There is a lot of support from police, local authorities, and community organisations."

"We go into schools and talk about the consequences of carrying a knife and what could happen. In schools pupils are taught maths and English, how to make a baby but not how to save lives. These are the things that made



PCC David Jamieson with the haul of 406 weapons that have been taken off the streets

me feel we needed to do something. In the West Midlands the communities have been very engaged. They have asked for it and they have supported it.

"Knife crime has been around for a long, long time. I grew up in 1960 and can remember the skinheads, mods, rockers, punks, and teddy boys. They carried them around. In society we have a gang culture and territorial culture. If they knew the fact you are more likely to be injured or killed by carrying one they wouldn't do it."

"We have other influences out there such as TV and films. We can't stop those influences but as parents and guardians we can teach and coach our children to separate reality from fiction. A lot of education has to start at home."

"TV and films are dramatised. It feeds negativity by glamorising. Look at James Bond; he shoots people, and sleeps with many beautiful

women. We need to instil values in people so that they can separate fact from fiction."

"The reality of being in a gang is not glamorous. It is boring."

The perception of fear is something that is echoed by a top West Midlands police officer who works to clear knives and guns from the streets. Detective Constable Dave Webb said: "I work as a link between the community and the police. The scheme has helped establish trust with the local communities and from the number of knives and even fire arms deposited, the results speak for themselves."

"There were more than 100 knives in one bin in Wolverhampton including a live firearm. It is all about trust and confidence but it is important that this is something that is run by the community. Why do people carry knives? It is about protection. Because one person has a knife, someone else thinks they

need one. Each one of these lives represents a concerned mother or someone who has found a knife in their child's room and has the trust and confidence to get rid of it safely."

"They represent someone who has gone to school and had made that choice that they do not need it and surrendered it."

Knife crime has reduced from 4,116 incidents in 2002/03 to 1,555 last year.

But that is still an average of four knife crimes a day across the Black Country and Birmingham.

Community campaigner Desmond Jaddoo added: "I think a lot of it is peer pressure. They see others around them with knives and think they have to too. Others are poor and think the only way they can get what they want is to rob someone else."

In total, 406 items were last week emptied from the collection bins, including 104 in Whitmore Reans and 14 in Heath Town, both in Wolverhampton.

The city will host the first Word 4 Weapons Community Awards at Molineux next month to recognise the contribution made by people to rid knives from the streets.

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson said: "These are ordinary people who are coming together to get knives and weapons off our streets."

"The numbers here may be shocking but it shows the bins are working."

"Residents can be reassured that every effort is being made to reduce knife crime. The figures are down by a third in the last decade and schemes like this with faith leaders and community figures is effective."

Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Yvonne Mosquito said: "It is the community that has taken this action. Although looking at the number and sheer variety of the weapons is horrifying, this is good news. Each one of these knives is someone who has not been killed or stabbed."

"There were people who were sceptical at the start of this project but getting these weapons off our streets is encouraging."

There are bins in Whitmore Reans, Heath Town, Sparkbrook, Edgbaston, Hockley, Loddles, Erdington, and Aston.

Another bin is planned for the Sandwell area, likely to be in West Bromwich.

## SUMMER SALE

- ✓ Old Buildings Removed
- ✓ Asbestos Disposal
- ✓ Base Laying Service
- ✓ Free Quotations

**CONCRETE GARAGE ROOF REPLACEMENT SERVICE**

### Wooden Sheds

FULL TONGUE & GROOVE

Fitted prices from

6ft x 4ft	£239
7ft x 5ft	£269
8ft x 6ft	£299

### Concrete Garages

Fitted prices from

Single Garage 16ft x 8ft	£1499
Double Garage 16ft x 16ft	£2999

### Summer Houses

Fitted prices from

7ft x 5ft	£575
8ft x 6ft	£685
8ft x 8ft	£745

### Log Cabins & Garden Rooms

Fitting service available

Wall Log 44mm T&G
Double Glazed
Insulated Options

✓ Huge Range   ✓ Made To Measure Service   ✓ Lined & Insulated Options   ✓ Quality At Competitive Prices

Show site (open 7 days): Tildasley Street, West Bromwich B70 9SJ (Next to Staples)

Visit our website: [www.bettabuildings.co.uk](http://www.bettabuildings.co.uk)

Call us now: 0121 553 4682

We make it



# Congratulations on narrowboat events

MY congratulations to both Netherton and Tipton who hosted canal festivals across consecutive weekends in September.

I was pleased to perform at both and get drawn in by all the narrowboats and activities that were there to be enjoyed. I was particularly pleased to spend some time on the Ikon boat (being used as a creative art space) that I will be performing on at the Black Country Museum in October. The boat has been part of the Black Country Voyages project for a few years and will be near its Tipton home.

The colour of the boats and canal art on show always reminds me of the boats we saw around the Churchbridge area of Oldbury when we were kids.

My only regret was not recording conversations and sets played by performers that I could have used on my show the Omma n Chain, now on Black Country Radio Sunday afternoons between 4 and 6.

The standard of performers at both events was only what I expect now when I move around the region giving talks or performing. To be part of the event brought the notion of celebration

of heritage to the fore. There is something very different between the boat festivals and other more community framed festivals. You are walking into the past in some sense while remaining very much in a contemporary setting. I am always honoured when asked to be involved in any of these events. Well done to everyone who put so much work into the events and next time I'll take a recorder and get some reactions from the families that are central to the success of any event of this kind.  
**DR B DAKIN (BILLY SPAKE MON)**  
Tividale

## What about the rules of rugby?

WHEN I was at school, we were taught the rules of rugby.

In the front row of the scrum, there should be two big guys on the outside, supporting a slightly smaller guy - the 'hooker'.

When the ball was thrown into the scrum, it should go through the middle, and the 'hookers', by sort of making a pedalling action with their feet, should compete for the ball.

The one who pulled the ball back to his teammates, who then recycled it back to the rear, won the scrum.

Simple isn't it? So why do the present players throw the ball into the feet of the players of their team?

This surely is cheating, isn't it?

Are all of the referees blind?

These days they could consult the guy who is watching the game via video, couldn't they?

**P COLE**  
Kingswinford

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Dudley Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

### EMAIL

dudley.chron@  
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Sadness over pubs sacrificed for stores

IT is very sad to see so many pubs being closed, replaced mainly by super or mini-markets. How many grocery outlets do we need?

Morrisons, for example, are closing two more stores, yet want to build another supermarket in Sedgley on the Seven Stars pub. This application should not be even considered.

How can it be right for companies like Morrisons to open and shut stores willy-nilly, throwing their employees out of work or moving them from their homes and environment?

The hoteliers in Dudley were recently appraising their selves on fully booked overnight stays, proving once more that the King Arthur has a future.

It stands on the gateway to Dudley and would make another hotel as tourism booms at the zoo and the Black Country Living Museum.

Don't give up on 'the Arthur' - it's much better than seeing another supermarket on your first visit to the Black Country surely.

**M SAXON**  
Tipton

## PM's brave talk fails to grasp truth

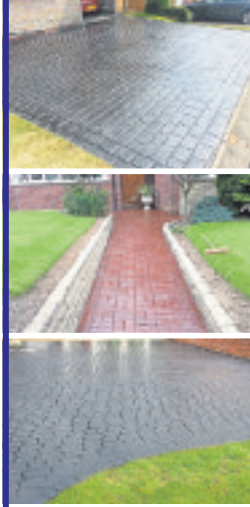
THE Prime Minister becomes the latest in a long line of chest thumping muscle flexing leaders to roar his defiance of the Taliban and all other terrorist organisations, including ISIS, as he thunders that he is ready to take on these organisations anywhere in the world. But, he warns, we cannot do this with air strikes alone, the time has come when we must be prepared to put boots on the ground!

The thing that I can never understand is why all these bravura MPs never seem to grasp as simple truth, that a goodly proportion of these 'boots' will be returned home in a military transport plane. Of course they will be neatly packed in brand new wooden boxes, and beautifully gift-wrapped in the Union flag.

Isn't it about time we decided it's time to stop getting involved in conflicts which most of the time have nothing to do with us?

**B PARSONS**  
Coseley

## DO YOU HAVE A BLOCK PAVING OR CONCRETE IMPRINT DRIVE?



- IS YOUR BLOCK PAVING UNLEVEL?
- WEEDS GROWING THROUGH?
- CRACKS APPEARING?
- PATIO SLABS UNEVEN?
- UNUSUALLY SLIPPERY WHEN WET?
- DRAINAGE ISSUES?
- COLOUR FADING?

AT BTF CLEANING WE SPECIALISE IN CLEANING, REPAIRING, RECOLOURING & SEALING DRIVEWAYS & PATIOS.

Our expert knowledge and experience brings back to life the most dull & worn of driveways & patios.

We also specialise in cleaning all uPVC conservatories, gutters, fascias & soffits.

**BTF**  
CLEANING SERVICES LIMITED

[www.btfcleaningservices.co.uk](http://www.btfcleaningservices.co.uk)

Narrow Lane, Halesowen,  
West Midlands. B62 9ND

Tel/Fax No: 01384 568345

Mob: 07979 211302

EXHAUSTS • TYRES • BATTERIES • 4x4 TYRES • SHOCKS • BRAKES • MOT'S\* • DISCS • SERVICING

## ARE YOU READY FOR AUTUMN?



CALL INTO ETB FOR A  
FREE TYRE SAFETY CHECK!

## MOT SPECIAL OFFER

ONLY  
**£35.00**  
Please quote  
'The Halesowen Chronicle'

## ETB MENU INTERIM SERVICE

NOW AVAILABLE  
Please call for details

## ETB MENU FULL SERVICE

NOW AVAILABLE  
Please call for details

## STANDARD TYRES from £27.95

165/70TR13 ... FROM ONLY **£29.90**  
175/70TR14 ... FROM ONLY **£38.95**  
175/65TR14 ... FROM ONLY **£27.95**

## PERFORMANCE TYRES from £32.99

185/65HR15 ... FROM ONLY **£36.00**  
195/60HR15 ... FROM ONLY **£32.99**  
195/65HR15 ... FROM ONLY **£32.99**

## HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES from £31.95

185/55VR15 ... FROM ONLY **£31.95**  
195/50VR15 ... FROM ONLY **£32.99**  
195/65VR15 ... FROM ONLY **£39.95**  
205/55VR16 ... FROM ONLY **£33.99**

## ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES from £37.99

215/55WR16 ... FROM ONLY **£37.99**  
205/50WR17 ... FROM ONLY **£44.95**  
225/45WR17 ... FROM ONLY **£38.99**  
225/40WR18 ... FROM ONLY **£38.99**

### BRIDGESTONE

#### PREMIUM SPECIALS

Size / Make	Price
195/65 VR 15 Bridgestone T001	<b>£53.50</b>
205/55 WR 16 Bridgestone RE002	<b>£58.95</b>
225/45 YR 17 Bridgestone S001	<b>£85.95</b>
225/40 YR 18 Bridgestone S001 XL	<b>£95.00</b>

### AVON TYRES

#### PREMIUM SPECIALS

Size / Make	Price
175/65TR14 Avon ZT5	<b>£37.95</b>
205/55VR16 Avon ZV5	<b>£53.95</b>
215/55WR16 Avon ZV5	<b>£79.95</b>
225/40YR18 Avon ZZ5	<b>£85.95</b>

## QUALITY NEW TYRES

WITH PRICES LIKE  
THESE - WHY RISK  
PART WORN TYRES?



## MERRY HILL

Level Street, Brierley Hill, DY5 1UA.  
Close to Merry Hill Centre

Tel: 01384 75555



**ETB**

A family run business for over 35 years.

WE WILL  
NOT BE BEATEN  
ON PRICE!  
ALL INCLUSIVE PRICES  
WITH NO  
HIDDEN EXTRAS!

WE ARE OPEN: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8.30am - 6.00pm, SATURDAYS 8.00am - 4.00pm. ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS.





# Want to use your conservatory all year round? Too HOT in summer? Too COLD in winter?

Replace your existing roof with a Supalite Roof System lightweight replacement for your conservatory roof

- Choice of tiles and colours
- Save energy, conserve heat

**SupaLite**  
MIDLANDS LTD



Before



After

**SUPALITE MIDLANDS LTD have the solution ....**

**ONLY MIDLANDS MANUFACTURER**

No Planning Permission needed!

0121 552 0100 / 0800 0075313

www.supalitemidlands.com /  
sales@supalitemidlands.com

## Recruitment drive proves successful

Grange (E) Guild

IN the absence of chairman Hazel Smith, treasurer Jill Attwood presided over the meeting at Grange Court, Stourbridge, on September 1 and welcomed all members and guests.

Jill read the minutes from the previous meeting which were accepted as a true record and duly signed. She then gave her financial report and secretary Jean Williams brought members up to date with future events within the Federation.

Following this brief meeting guild members enjoyed the Harvest supper which had been prepared and served by the committee. The meal consisted of two courses followed by tea and coffee.

The sales table was overflowing with Harvest produce and went well with everything being sold. The raffle was drawn and three lucky ladies won prizes. The committee were given a vote of thanks on behalf of all members.

At the next meeting on October 6, a representative from Boots will be giving a demonstration of Clarins beauty products. Visitors will be made most welcome.

The recruitment drive for new members has been very successful and the guild is still continuing to recruit for more.

Grange E Guild meets on the first Tuesday of every month except January. Any ladies wishing to join as guests you will be made most welcome. For any further information, contact Secretary Jean Williams on 01384832439.

## Guest Tony proves hive of information

Wordsley M Townswomen

### Humorous talk by Black Country Poet

Dudley South Ladies

CHAIRMAN Mary Jones was delighted to welcome several visitors and 37 members to the Himley House Hotel for the September Luncheon.

The new venue had been necessary because the Kingfisher Hotel had closed for refurbishment and hopes to be open before the new year.

The club will continue to meet the second Friday in each month.

No luncheon was held in August and instead members were invited to a coffee morning at the home of Ann and Mike Rogers. It had been a great success and in addition to good support from members, guests included MP Mike Wood, several local councillors, two representatives from the new owners of the Kingfisher and two from the magazine Village

Voice. The occasion raised £181 and was very popular and enjoyed by all.

On a lovely summer day in August Ann had also arranged a canal trip, including afternoon tea, from the Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge.

The September guest speaker was the Black Country Poet David Bartley who had everyone laughing from beginning to end. His poems and tales were hilarious and he was asked to come back again.

October's speaker will be Mark Newbold, a Falklands War veteran, and in November it is Christine Gregory who will talk about Remembrance Day celebrations in other countries.

THE September meeting was opened by vice-chairman Ann Birchell who welcomed members and several visitors.

Because of the distracting alterations in the main hall in which the group meets, it was decided to introduce the speaker first and then deal with part of the business afterwards.

Ann introduced Tony Brake whose very interesting talk about honey bees began with him showing the old type of hive compared with the more modern type, one of which Tony had brought along and proceeded to construct. The clothing protection, also demonstrated, is far more superior today than that worn years ago. He also showed several other important items and gadgets and described their usage.

There followed the Harvest table sale. The Harvest lunch, organised by the Federation, is on October 7 at Wollaston Village Hall at 12.30pm.

At the meeting on October 19 at 10am, Ruth Lowe will relate the life and rise to fame of Mary Quant.

## Fashion icon speaker's topic

Wollaston 'E' TWG

FORTY nine members attended the September meeting, chaired by Jean Latham.

A letter was received from June Pardoe following her hip operation.

The popular skittles evening has been arranged for next April. The next luncheon date is October 20 at The Fox, Stourton.

The Macmillan summer tea party has so far raised approximately £150. Sandra Oliver again won the premier singles bowls

Wollaston 'E' TWG

shield. Ruth Lowe gave an enlightening talk on the life of Mary Quant and brought along a number of clothing items and 60s memorabilia. Raffle prizes went to Beryl Blackmore and Pat Wilson, and competition winners were Pat McEwen and Joy Heath.

On October 13, Ian Drury will speak about the Portland and Ruskin Centre.

## Take the pane away from fitting blinds

### COMMERCIAL FEATURE

QUEEN Blinds has established itself as one of the West Midlands' leading blinds manufacturer and supplier.

We have built our reputation with our uncompromising focus on customer service, being one of the only manufacturers to maintain our commitment to delivering all orders within the best possible time.

Please take a look through our website to appreciate just how comprehensive our product range is.

Queen blinds offers a complete design and fit service.

We are not just a blinds retailer, we provide you with a complete blind fitting service.

#### Design

This starts with a free, no obligation quotation. One of our experienced agents will visit you on site and will measure your windows.

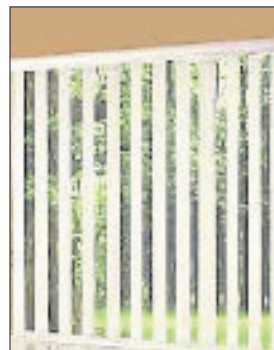
He or she will then offer you a helpful advisory discussion regarding the fabric and design of your choice from the samples offered including bespoke blinds.

We then manufacture the blinds ourselves and install them safely and securely in your home.

We provide made to measure window blinds that completely combine the function of a vertical blind and the control of the light.

We provide you with a broad choice of transparent, blackout fabrics, aluminium and PVC louvers.

The fabric louvers are available in 89mm only and are presented in a



A complete fitting service is available



Roman blinds fitted by Queen Blinds



Roller blinds are also supplied



Bespoke Venetian blinds are offered

wide range of colours. Please visit our Facebook page for our positive feedback and recommendations.

Our customers have left excellent

reviews because we provide excellent workmanship coupled with outstanding customer service from start to finish.

# QUEEN BLINDS

Mix & Match Vertical Blinds Or Roller

**3 for £100**

72" x 72"

Vertical Blinds

**3 for £79**

Up to 72" x 72"

Roller Blinds

**3 for £119**

60" x 60"

We provide Venetian, Roman, Roller, Vertical, Velux, Pleated

Supplied & Fitted within 5 days

**OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK**

**8.30AM TILL 7PM**

**FREE MEASURING & FITTING**

12 Month Guarantee Terms & Conditions Apply

Full Conservatory Blinds Fitted

**£189**

Vertical Only

Call: 0121 285 5155

Text: 07707 435964 www.queenblinds.co.uk

**0800 907 8631**

Find us on Facebook

**FREEPHONE**



# Guarantees sought on cash for fleeing Syrians

**REFUGEES** fleeing Syria will not be accepted by at least two West Midlands councils without guarantees of funding from the Government.

Council leaders in Sandwell and Walsall have ruled out taking any of the 20,000 Syrian refugees due to come to the UK unless they receive more than the one year of funding guaranteed from the international aid budget.

But Dudley Council has revealed it will take 20 refugee families while Wolverhampton council has said it is working on a plan to accept around 20 people. Syrian refugees will be funded by central government out of the international aid budget but it is only guaranteed for a year. It is not clear who will foot the bill for anyone who has not been given leave to remain after that.

## Destitute

There were calls for the Government to redraw its 'dispersal' areas for 'supported' asylum seekers after official figures revealed the Black Country has hundreds more than Birmingham while most of Shropshire has none and there are only four living in Cannock Chase.

'Supported' asylum seekers are those in receipt of public funds who would otherwise be destitute because they cannot work while their application to stay in the country is processed. Sandwell alone has 695 while Wolverhampton has 645, Walsall has 234 and Dudley has 226.

These figures account for all supported asylum seekers, not Syrian refugees currently arriving on the shores of Greece and other European countries, many of them travelling by dinghy and risking their lives.

Wolverhampton council leader Councillor Roger Lawrence, West Mid-



**Rohullah Yakobi, of Wolverhampton, with his wife Tahira, son Sa-aadat, aged five, and daughter Roya, eight months**

lands Strategic Migration Partnership chief, said: "Metropolitan boroughs have been designated as dispersal areas by the Home Office. We are arguing that the Government should designate other areas in the West Midlands as dispersal areas. These are not people funded in any way by local authorities.

"They are funded entirely by the Home Office. They are housed in the private sector. Often we do not know where they are."

Sandwell Council's leader Darren Cooper has informed the Home Office that his borough will not take any Syrian refugees 'as it currently stands', saying that the figures show there is 'clear evidence' that the Black Coun-

try has already taken more than areas of similar population size. Warley MP John Spellar, who obtained the figures in a Parliamentary question, said: "The Government has been taking money away from councils who have been doing more than their fair share. I very much agree with Sandwell Council on this."

But a Conservative MP said the lack of asylum seekers in the county was down to the cost and supply of housing, which meant it was difficult to house new arrivals. South Staffordshire's Gavin Williamson said: "There's no point offering for people to come to an area where it is not possible to get them somewhere to live."

# HagleyKitchens

Beautiful Kitchens & Bathrooms, Designed with Imagination and Skillfully Fitted with Care



## "A beautiful new kitchen..."

We are so pleased we chose Hagley Kitchens - for Graham and his team nothing was too much trouble...*Thank you!* **Tony & Beryl Rhead - Halesowen**

"Like magic everything was in place... tiling, electrics, and beautiful appliances... a fantastically designed kitchen. Graham made everything simple" **Audrey Basterfield, Hasbury**

"They gave us our perfect kitchen, a great local company." **Sandra Donnelly, Kingswinford**

"The kitchen of our Dreams, we made so many changes but all was completed with so little fuss... I love showing off my new kitchen to everyone!!" **Norah & Chris Painter, Pedmore**

"A major project completed on time without any problems at all" **Gill McKenzie, Codsall**



Call Graham Edmonds for your 'FREE' no obligation new Hagley Kitchen's design  
**07776 207596**  
or 0121 602 3031

## Guaranteed unbeatable on price

See some of our range of beautiful Modern and Traditional kitchens at: [www.HagleyKitchens.co.uk](http://www.HagleyKitchens.co.uk)

**INSTALLATION • TILING • GAS • ELECTRIC • PLUMBING • BUILDING**

## Choices

WINDOWS | DOORS | CONSERVATORIES | ORANGERIES

Celebrating  
21 years  
Est  
1994 - 2015

# 1/3 off

## All of October

Don't miss the opportunity to save 1/3 off our already amazing prices  
**Bringing you tomorrows products today**

Showroom at: Sedgley Road West, Tipton DY4 8DQ  
**Now open until 7.30pm every Thursday!**



**Call today for a free no obligation quotation**

Tel: 0121 557 7228 | [www.choiceswindows.co.uk](http://www.choiceswindows.co.uk)



KOMMERLING®



# "I switched and saved over £300"

**Sign up to Dudley's Big Switch and we will get energy companies to compete to win you as a customer**

**It's free to register and we will aim to get you the very best energy deal**

**Register by 12 Oct 2015**

**Simply call Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345**

Or you can also register online and find out more information at [www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch)







Revellers pose for the camera at The Top Of The World, known as The Grot, in 1979



A pre-Dexy's Kevin Rowland performs with The Killjoys



Boogying away the night on the disco dancefloor during the late 1960s

# Top Of The World to Northern Soul as turntables spin back the years

## MEMORY LANE

Report by Marion Brennan

**WHEN** the legendary Wigan Casino closed in 1981, it was clubs in Staffordshire and the Black Country that kept the Northern Soul flame alive.

As Wigan was in its dying days, all-nighters at The Top Of The World Club in Stafford were opening and for five years set the standard playing 1960s records not spun on this side of the Atlantic before.

Big names played there too, including Wednesfield's own Kevin Rowland with The Killjoys before he found fame with Dexy's Midnight Runners.

Now some of the UK's top Northern Soul DJs are to converge



Ex-Radio One DJ Steve Wright

on the Newport Road venue once again, now known as Couture, for a one-off, all-vinyl gig next month as the movement enjoys a UK-wide revival.

All three dance floors at The Top of the World's former home, will be in action, with room for up to 1,500 people. With former Wigan Casino host Kev Roberts named

as lead DJ, the event is expected to be a sell-out. Organiser Jane Bewick Green, of Little Haywood, Stafford, who was a regular at the Top Of The World as a teenager, hopes it will attract many of the original club-goers.

The 51-year-old former Graham Balfour High School student said: "My immediate memory of the place was the sticky floor. It was known then as The Grot, I don't know why, but it was the place to go."

"It was around 1980-81 before Northern Soul hit Stafford. Human League were big and we used to make arrangements at school - these were the days before mobile phones and the internet - to meet up later at the club."

"My older friends used to go from Stafford to the famous Wigan Casino and when it closed, Stafford was one of the places Northern Soul migrated to. I really hope my event will kick-

start a revival in Stafford. A new Northern Soul club has opened in Birmingham, I'd love it to come back to The Top Of The World on a regular basis."

Rob Smith, who gigged at the club in the 1980s, is returning as one of the guest DJs. He said: "They played the undiscovered stuff and earned respect for that. Stafford had the reputation as being pretty creative."

Kev Roberts, one of the most prominent Northern Soul DJ/promoters in the country, who first hosted at Wigan in 1973, is seen as a major coup for the event. During his early club life, the Gold radio presenter MC'd the Four Tops, Jackie Wilson, Supremes, Miracles, Billy Ocean and other top names.

He said: "Back in 1974, I had two residencies - the famous Wigan Casino and Top of the World. One thousand kids packed in every Monday for the weekly

soul night. I even remember chatting to Rod Temperton who was in Heatwave. He went on to write Thriller for Michael Jackson. They were happy times."

The veteran DJ will be joined on the night by Nige Brown (Kings Hall Stoke), Sean Chapman (Prestatyn and Whitby Weekenders), Ted Massey (Kings Hall Stoke), Rob Smith (Top of the World All Nighter original) and Ozz (Wolverhampton Civic Hall).

The club's three rooms will be opening up for the October 23 event, with the biggest room given over to Northern Soul. The other two will play Tamla Motown music from the 70s and 80s. The night will raise money for the charity Street Child's Ebola Orphan Appeal.

Jane is appealing for photographs of the venue in its heyday. Email her at: [jane@street-child.co.uk](mailto:jane@street-child.co.uk)



Cinderella Rockerfellas fancy dress party in the 1980s



A pyjama party at The Top Of The World, at around 1980

## AUTUMN OFFERS

INCREDIBLE PRICES!

Conservatories



Veranda/Al Fresco Dining/Carport



Composite front door plus PVCu back door  
**£990**  
fitted inc. VAT

Composite front door plus PVCu back door  
**£1590**  
fitted inc. VAT



Prices inc. VAT	A Triple Glazed	A Double Glazed	C Double Glazed
Any 3 Windows	£1885	£1640	£1480
Any 5 Windows	£3153	£2740	£2470
Any 7 Windows	£4417	£3840	£3460
Any 9 Windows	£5683	£4940	£4390
Any 11 Windows	£6947	£6040	£5369

FREE WINDOW (Smallest Window Free)

**BIGGEST**  
Midlands Manufacture  
Over 50,000 sq ft factory  
VISITS  
ARRANGED

**HIGH-SPEC**  
Windows & Conservatories



Windows



Patio/  
French/  
Bi-Fold  
Doors

White PVCu  
Patio or  
French Doors  
**£1190**  
fitted inc. VAT  
Max 1900  
wide  
x 2100 high

FREE NO  
OBLIGATION  
QUOTE

FACTORY & SHOWROOM  
Rood End Rd., Oldbury B68 8SF

RING NOW 0121 552 9777  
FREEPHONE 0800 007 5312

[www.highspecinstallations.co.uk](http://www.highspecinstallations.co.uk) / [hispec-sales@outlook.com](mailto:hispec-sales@outlook.com)

\*Dependent on sizes \*Terms & Conditions Apply All major credit cards accepted

OPEN 7 DAYS  
A WEEK  
Mon - Fri  
8am - 6pm  
Sat & Sun  
10am - 4pm

## INSPIRATIONAL FIRES & FIREPLACES Be Inspired...

Official stockists of CHESNEY'S



Showroom: 404-406 Bearwood Road, Bearwood B66 4EX  
Tel: 0121 429 3186

Opening Times: Monday-Saturday 10.00am-6.00pm



[www.inspirationalfires.co.uk](http://www.inspirationalfires.co.uk) email: [info@inspirationalfires.co.uk](mailto:info@inspirationalfires.co.uk)





FOR THE START OF THE WILLIAM & SONS

# autumn sale

# EXTRA

**OFFER ENDS SUNDAY 5pm!**

## discount

off our already low **SALE PRICES**

Order now for guaranteed Christmas delivery.



Buy this **final** weekend of our **autumn sale** for **EXTRA discount** throughout the whole store...  
**plus pay nothing** until next year, **no deposit** and **no interest ever!**



Large double reclining motion sofa. WAS £1099 SALE ~~£649~~

**EXTRA**  
discount price

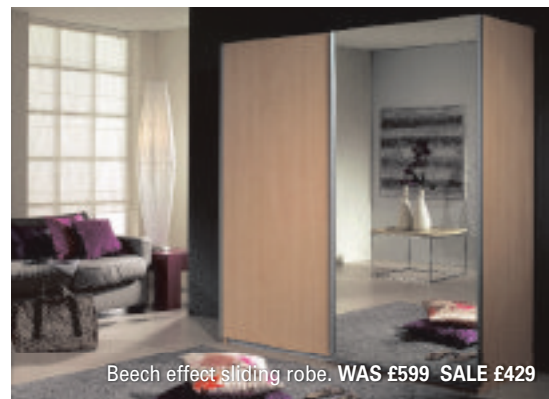
**£499** SAVE  
£600



Light oak effect dining table & 4 chairs. WAS £799 SALE ~~£409~~

**EXTRA**  
discount price

**£389** SAVE  
£410



Beech effect sliding robe. WAS £599 SALE ~~£429~~

**EXTRA**  
discount price

**£289** SAVE  
£310



**WILLIAM & SONS**

[www.williamandsons.co.uk](http://www.williamandsons.co.uk)

Level Street  
Merry Hill, Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY5 1UA  
T. 01384 77444

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK...**  
Monday to Friday 10-5.30pm  
Saturday 10-6pm  
Sunday 11-5pm

Backed up by our **Price Match Promise!**

Alstons

bardi

BUOYANT

Harrison

HTL

KINGSTOWN

MYER'S

rauch

REST

Relax

THOM

Sainsbury

Summertime

TCS

WADE

0% APR  
REPRESENTATIVE

\*Deferred interest free credit offer available on balances over £399. **Representative Example:** Cash Price £399. Deposit £0.00. Total Amount of Credit £399. Duration of the Agreement 18 months. 12 x Monthly Repayments of £33.25 starting 6 months after delivery or collection. Annual Rate of Interest 0%. Representative APR 0%. Total Amount Payable £399. Written details available on request. Subject to status. All offers subject to availability. Price Match Promise Terms & Conditions apply - ask in store or see our website for further details. E&OE.



**3 FLOORS OF FAMOUS NAMES**

# LAST FEW DAYS!!! of Dreamland's SPECTACULAR CLEARANCE SALE

**SHOWROOM MODELS TO CLEAR MANY 'ONE OFF' BARGAINS**

**CHILDREN'S BEDS**

**OTTOMAN BEDS**

**ADJUSTABLE BEDS**

**WOODEN FRAME BEDS**

**METAL FRAME BEDS**

**SOFA BEDS**

**Specialist bed stockists:**

Find us at:  
Mill Street,  
Brierley Hill  
01384 74166

LARGE FREE CAR PARK AT REAR OF STORE  
Little Cottage Street,  
DY5 1RG

OPEN  
Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm  
Sat 9am-5.30pm  
Sun 11am-4.30pm

Supporters of Mary Stevens Hospice

# Why the need for Labour conference?

**DANIEL WAINWRIGHT**  
Political Editor



Rob Marris, Wolverhampton South West



Walsall North MP David Winnick

SO, Conference season. Is it a crucial opportunity for MPs to re-connect with their core supporters or just yet another few weeks when they aren't in the Commons doing what we pay them for?

The Liberal Democrats held theirs last week, managing to actually fill a conference hall. Presumably there weren't any phone boxes available.

Labour then descending on Brighton, which presumably deserves such an inconvenience because it dared two elections in a row to send a Green candidate to the Commons.

Part of me wonders what the real point is of Labour even having its conference.

## Contest

The party has just spent four months talking almost exclusively to itself in what started out as a self-indulgent leadership contest before turning into a self-destructive one. If it doesn't know after all that what it should be doing it never will.

But it is Jeremy Corbyn's chance to explain just how he intends to turn his clear and impressive mandate for the leadership into one to govern the country.

David Winnick knows a thing or three about elections, having fought and won every single one since 1979.

And while the Walsall North MP is no fan of Tony Blair, he also knows

that the former leader happened to lead Labour to three out of its five comfortable election wins since 1945.

Labour ended up in government after nine general elections since the war. But in 1950, 1964 and the second election of 1974 their majorities were thinner than any book Nigel Farage might publish entitled What I Like About the European Union.

Jeremy Corbyn is pretty popular among young people but think tank Demos found if every young person registered to vote did so and backed Labour, they'd still only have a majority of one, which is basically as good as naught.

But while the conference season is the time to find out what the parties might want of themselves, there are those who would rather be doing something more useful.

Wolverhampton South West Rob Marris was staying local rather than join the big Brighton talking shop. His party could do worse than learn a thing or two from him. He was one of only a handful of Labour candidates to unseat a Tory in May. Mr Marris is obviously doing something right, without lurching that way politically.

The West Midlands Combined Authority wants to use public money to subsidise the M6 Toll to cut its prices or even make it free.

On paper it makes sense. But I can't see George Osborne going for it. Taking a private business and giving it public money to do what it was already doing without it doesn't really sit that well with a message that we're still 'all in this together'.

The only thing we're all in together is the queue of traffic on the M6.

## GasOn Spares Ltd

**Over 50 cookers on display**

### The Halesowen Cooker & Fire Centre

Tel: 0121 585 7799  
www.gasonspares.co.uk

We have good stocks of Range & 50cm/60cm Gas & Electric cookers, As well as Gas/Electric Fires. We Also supply all Genuine Manufacture spares - Most being stocked

248 Hagley Road, Hasbury, Halesowen B63 4QQ

## FIRST FENCE

Over 15 Years Experience.

Prices Start From £70 A Bay Including Heavy Duty Fence Panel, Concrete Post, Ground Board & Fitting.

**10 Bays for £570**

**Sheds Now Available!**

Gardening Services & Shed Re-felts Also Undertaken.

Free Quotes. All Written Quotes Beaten!!

# 01384 834197

# 07927 014217

## Safely access your loft!

for ONLY **£399**

**Fully Fitted**

This price is for a standard height ceiling with an 8ft drop, width 22-30"

- We provide a convenient and safe way to access your loft.
- Each ladder has a 10 year parts guarantee and can be installed in approx. 2-3 hours.
- We offer a loft boarding service if required at an additional cost.

**JAKES'D LADDERS**

The Local Distributor & Installer for STIRA

For more information visit: www.stira.co.uk

PHONE TO ARRANGE A FREE QUOTE  
T: 01952 282152 or 07817 431505

## Any Carpet

## ANYWHERE

### MASSIVE CARPET AND VINYL CLEARANCE

**Roll Ends Reduced To Clear!**

- Free Quotes
- Free Local Delivery
- Free Measuring
- Fitting Service Available

**10% OFF ALL VINYL ENDS**

129 Coombs Road, Halesowen  
Call: 0121 561 4607

# NOT for the faint hearted!

**Slackers need not apply**

We are currently recruiting people in your area to deliver your free newspaper, magazines and Advertising Leaflets

If you are over 13 years of age and would like the opportunity to earn some extra cash, contact us with:

**Your Name, Address & Telephone Number**

Simply ring **01902 319990** or email **marie.darling@expressandstar.co.uk**

**Express Distribution**



## Fly-tipping down in South Staffs

REPORTS of fly-tipping has fallen by a quarter in South Staffordshire in five years. Council bosses say a crackdown on the problem is working, with nine people prosecuted last year – the highest in the region.

Fly-tipping is rocketing in most areas of the Black Country and Staffordshire with 13,296 reports last year but just 12 prosecutions. More than £1.7 million was spent by councils over the last three years tackling the problem.

But in South Staffordshire last year nine people were prosecuted and convicted for fly-tipping, resulting in fines and costs of more than £8000.

Roger Lees, South Staffordshire Council's cabinet member for legal and public health protection, said: "We still think this is too many. All fly-tipping is an absolute disgrace. This is why we are proactively dealing with the issue."

Dudley's fly-tipping total rose from 729 to 820 in three years.

## King Shazad lifted his 50th mile-stone



Shahzada Saleem with the heaviest stone he lifted

ACCOLADES were paid to an Asian sporting legend from Dudley as guests marked his 50th birthday.

Shahzada Saleem, better known as King Shazad, became world champion in Asian stone lifting and broke numerous records. Friends, family and dignitaries attended his 50th birthday celebrations at Brierley Hill Civic Hall, organised by his son Shaz Saleem, chairman of Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association.

Mayor of Dudley Councillor Steve Waltho presented Mr Saleem with a trophy in recognition of his career. Mr Saleem's son Shaz said: "His dedication to stone lifting has inspired the next generation to follow in his footsteps."

Mr Saleem was born in Pakistan but his family moved to England when he was one and settled in Dudley. He took up stone lifting in 1983, aged 16, and two years later became the youngest world champion, lifting 160kg (around 350lbs) when he only weighed 12 stone himself. He set a benchmark of 441lbs (201kg) in 1995. After retiring from the sport he began coaching youngsters and concentrated on the family business Beacon Taxis, based in Sedgley.

## Globetrotters slam dunk 60th at arena

BASKETBALL legends the Harlem Globetrotters are back with a new generation of trick shot wizards in the tradition of Meadowlark Lemon and Fred 'Curly' Neal.

The exhibition team celebrate 90 years of the Globetrotters at the Barclaycard Arena in Birmingham on April 30, 2016, as part of their anniversary world tour.

They will draw from a star-studded roster including Big Easy Lofton, Ant Atkinson, Hi-Lite Bruton, Thunder Law, Bull Bullard and Cheese Chisholm, plus female stars TNT Maddox and Sweet J Ekworomadu.

The Globetrotters' performance is a one-of-a-kind show with ball handling magic, rim-rattling dunks, trick shots, comedy and unequalled fan interaction. The event is designed to entertain the whole family.

Tickets start at £17.58 plus £2.55 fee from [www.theticketfactory.com](http://www.theticketfactory.com) or call 0844 338 8000 (5p per minute).

# Father's trek on the Great Wall of China for hospital

**AN intrepid Coseley man clocked up thousands of steps and nearly 100 miles as he trekked along the Great Wall of China to raise cash for the hospital which cared for his son.**

Jason Addison, aged 44, has now returned from the challenge and is on course for his £10,000 fundraising target, although more donations are welcome.

He covered the distance in just five days taking in sections of the wall at Beijing, Huangyahuan, Taipingzhai, Qiangjian, and Shuichang.

The cost of the trek was self-funded so all the money donated will be given to Birmingham Children's Hospital Oncology Unit Ward 15.

Mr Addison, who runs Addison Tyres in Tipton, said it had been a remarkable experience but tougher than expected.

He added: "It is a breathtaking sight to look back and see the wall snaking back behind you. However, it was very tough going. Each step is so steep."

Mr Addison, from Coseley, said his son, Scott, had leukaemia when he was four and was cared for at the hospital. Scott is now in remission, fit and well and turns 21 this year.

To donate visit [www.justgiving.com/addsontyres-china-trek](http://www.justgiving.com/addsontyres-china-trek)



Jason Addison during his walk on the Great Wall

## Support group is for carers

CARERS are invited to attend a new regular drop-in event in Dudley town centre.

Carers Tea and Chat links people who support friends or relatives who have a disability or a long-term illness, with other carers and organisations. The service launching tomorrow (Fri) is a partnership between Dudley Carers Network, Healthwatch Dudley and Dudley CVS.

Sharon McGlynn, carer coordinator from Dudley CVS, said: "Carers Tea and Chat is an informal way for them to meet other people in the same situation while finding out about help and support that may be available".

It will be on the first and third Friday of every month between 9.30am and noon in the Lunch on the Run café at DY1, part of a new community building in Stafford Street. Contact Healthwatch Dudley on 03000 111 001.

AUTUMN SALE  
EXTRA  
DISCOUNTS  
OFF ALL SALE PRICES  
ENDS THIS SUNDAY

ORLEANS LEATHER KING SIZE BEDSTEAD WITH STORAGE  
NORMAL £1999 | SALE £1599

£1299  
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE

SAVE £700

Items as pictured in room set  
A - REIMS 2 DOOR WARDROBE £699 (Normal £1199 | Sale £899)  
B - REIMS BEDSIDE CABINET £199 (Normal £299 | Sale £239)

£999  
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE

HARRISON AUSTWICK 6700  
POCKETED SPRING KINGSIZE 4 DRAWER DIVAN  
Normal £1599 | Sale £1199

Harrison

## BEDS & BEDROOMS

Until 5pm this Sunday you can take advantage of extra discounts off all sale prices throughout all departments, at the Midlands' largest and most inspirational furniture stores.

Cousins bedding and bedroom departments are immense – more than twice the size of most bedding specialists.

They offer unrivalled choice, quality and value, including all the famous brand names. There's every style and size imaginable..

HURRY DOORS CLOSE THIS SUNDAY 5PM!

LACEY CHEVAL MIRROR (75.5 x 20.5")  
Normal £109  
Sale £99

£89  
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE

£399  
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE

MYERS LEO  
POCKETED DOUBLE  
2 DRAWER DIVAN  
Normal £579 | Sale £499

Myers

£799  
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE

NIMES KING SIZE BEDSTEAD  
Normal £1199  
Sale £929

BEDSIDE TABLE  
Normal £369  
Sale £279

£199  
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE

WILLIS & GAMBIER  
Furniture designed for life

£549  
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE

AINSLIE KING SIZE STORAGE BEDSTEAD  
Normal £799 Sale £599

ORDER NOW  
FOR PRE-CHRISTMAS  
DELIVERY

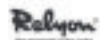
0% FINANCE

IN STORE CAFE

FAMOUS BRANDS

FREE PARKING

Hammonds  
be inspired



LOW SALE PRICES • PAY NOTHING FOR A YEAR • NO DEPOSIT • INTEREST FREE

Cousins  
a true family business

Open 7 days a week | Late Nights: Tuesday & Thursday until 8pm

Birmingham  
Warwick Road,  
Tyseley, B11 2EW.  
T: 0121 765 3300

Dudley  
Hall Street  
DY2 8NW.  
T: 01384 451500

Manchester  
A57, Regent Rd,  
Salford, M5 4EA.  
T: 0161 875 4070

[www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk](http://www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk)

PRICE PROMISE  
Our price promise to you, we won't be beaten on price! \*

- Free parking
- Instore restaurant
- Large stocks
- Immediate delivery

CELEBRATING  
30  
YEARS



0% APR REPRESENTATIVE Deferred interest Free Credit available on all orders over £500. Subject to status. All balances must be paid in September 2016 on the date specified at the time of purchase. Written details on request. Offer not available on clearance items, in store concessions or web specials. Some items are subject to one per household and only available in limited colours, or the colours shown in this advert. Prices in this advert are valid until 04.10.16. See website for Price Promise details.



# Buy and sell with our new look **Classifieds**

**1**

Visit our new Classified website  
[classifiedads.expressandstar.co.uk](http://classifiedads.expressandstar.co.uk)

**2**

Call our Classified sales team  
on **01902 317 878**

**3**

Self Serve - Create your own advert  
in print and online - visit:  
[bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk](http://bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk)



## **Classified**Ads

**BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL**

Brought to you by **Express & Star**





See rabbits haring over hurdles at the annual show

## COMPETITION

# National Pet Show tickets can be yours

THE National Pet Show sponsored by Gocompare.com returns to NEC Birmingham next month – and 15 lucky readers can win a pair of tickets.

With hundreds of different animals, amazing action displays, expert talks and many more activities, the National Pet Show, running from November 7-8, provides an educational and entertaining weekend for pet lovers across the country.

From the cute and cuddly to the weird and wonderful, visitors can get up close and personal to their favourite animals and receive essential advice from the experts.

Amazing action displays including Rabbit Show Jumping and Duck Herding, with a whole host of exciting new feature areas including Hill's School for Dogs, TopCats and

the Nerf Activity Ring. The nation's most skilled and heroic dogs will showcase their talents in the 'Super Dogs Live' competition.

Visitors can meet animal experts and celebrities including reptile expert Crocodile Joe, while Professor Noel Fitzpatrick, on the last leg of his Eukanuba Supernet Live Tour, will recount heart-warming stories from his popular Channel 4 show The Supernet and reveal the latest veterinary profession advances.

Visitors can also seek out the ideal festive gift for their pets.

The National Pet Show promotes responsible pet ownership and animal welfare with experts on hand to provide advice and answer any questions. For more information visit [www.thenationalpetshow.com](http://www.thenationalpetshow.com)



Supernet Professor Noel Fitzpatrick



The Chronicle has 15 pairs of tickets to give away. To stand a chance of winning, just answer this simple question: Name of the Supernet from the Channel 4 series.

Send your answer, with your name, address and daytime contact number to: Pet Show Competition, Chronicle series, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date is October 12. Usual Chronicle rules apply. Editor's decision is final.

# 2015 OPEN DAY

Saturday,  
17 October,  
9am - 12 midday



HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

OUTSTANDING  
ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE

SIXTH FORM  
INFORMATION EVENING

Thursday, 22 October  
7pm

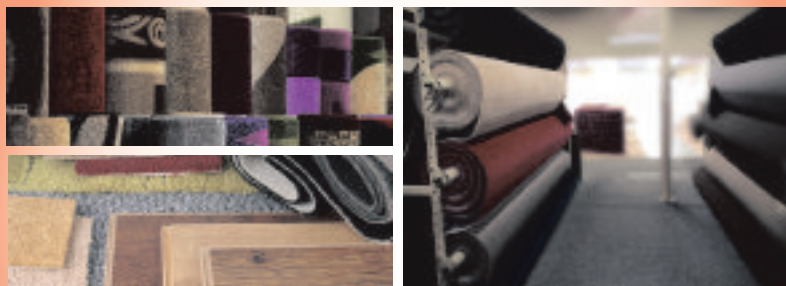
Students of all faiths and backgrounds are invited  
Very wide choice of subjects

Highest average point  
score per student in  
Worcestershire!

Come and see what our school is about. Upheld as 'Outstanding' by both OFSTED and the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Hagley Catholic High School offers a first class education for all its pupils.

Headteacher's talk at 10am and 11am  
Brake Lane, Hagley, Nr. Stourbridge, DY8 2XL  
01562 88 31 93

## Order your carpet now and we will store and guarantee fitting for Christmas



**Floormaster Carpets**  
The Carpet and Bedding Superstore

9/10 High Street, Cradley Heath B64 5HP  
01384 561106

## FREE BOILERS - CALL TODAY

Checkatrade.com

CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE, NO JOB TOO SMALL

**FREEPHONE**  
0800 233 5688  
[www.ecopiipeheating.com](http://www.ecopiipeheating.com)  
[info@ecopiipeheating.com](mailto:info@ecopiipeheating.com)

**ECOPIPE**  
Plumbing & Heating Solutions  
All boilers available from  
**WORCESTER** + Budget Ranges

**BORSHCH**  
Gas & Electrical Superstore

Winner of the British Electrical Manufacturing and Retailing Award for best Multi Channel Retailer 2014

Fully integrated washing machines ONLY <b>£239.99</b>	Range Cookers FROM <b>£549.99</b>	Beko Multizone Fridge Freezer ONLY <b>£349.99</b>	Fridge Freezers FROM <b>£169.99</b>
Dishwashers FROM <b>£139.99</b>	6kg Washing Machines FROM <b>£139.99</b>	American Style Fridge Freezers FROM <b>£369.99</b>	Gas / Electric Cookers FROM <b>£159.99</b>
Under Counter Fridges & Freezers FROM <b>£99.99</b>	Beko 75cm Fridge Freezer ONLY <b>£429.99</b>	Fully integrated dishwashers ONLY <b>£169.99</b>	Dryers FROM <b>£99.99</b>

Peartree Lane, Dudley DY2 0QU | 01384 571 879  
Branches also at Birmingham and Walsall  
Open times: Mon-Sat 9.30-6.00pm Sunday 10.00-4.00pm  
[www.borshchelectric.co.uk](http://www.borshchelectric.co.uk)  
Stock subject to availability Pictures for illustration purposes only  
Quality Products Lowest Prices



# Mothers — pride for Swim Deep

## ALBUM REVIEWS

by Leon Burakowski

**BIRMINGHAM'S** Swim Deep go back to go forward on their second album, **Mothers**.

The light but compelling bliss pop of 2013's *Where The Heaven Are We* has been replaced by a tougher tripped-out sound blending psychedelic excess with the bleary eyed trance dance sounds of baggy Manchester, circa The Stone Roses and The Happy Mondays.

There is the odd mis-step. Namaste sounds like The Boo Radleys given a tinny Stock-Aitken-Waterman production, while Forever Spaceman finds frontman Austin Williams channeling Syd Barrett around the time of Pink Floyd's *Interstellar Overdrive*. But the enhanced five-piece (keyboardist James Balmont now a fully-fledged member) have a fuller, more varied sound on *Mothers*, which the band dedicated to child-bearers, rather than Frank Zappa's *Mothers of Invention*.

Grand Affection is a compelling Depêche Mode-like groove and *Is There Anybody Out There* has cinematic grandeur. Other highlights include the wonky charms of *Green Conduit* and *Laniakea*, the Spandau Ballet meets Simple Minds sound of *Imagination* and the closing *Fuelho Boogie* built on a Giorgio Moroder-like disco beat.

Now *Mothers* gets road tested when Swim Deep have a home city gig at Birmingham Institute on October 17 as part of their UK tour.

**Lana Del Rey** takes her languid style of femme fatale vocals into echo chambers of chilled minimalist drama on her third major label album, **Honeymoon**.

The title track opens the album oozing the retro cool of a 1950s torch singer backed by icy strings. It sets the tone for a self-assured exercise in



Two years after their debut, Swim Deep release second album *Mothers*

magnificent morose moodiness, reaching a peak of gothic romance on *The Blackest Day*. The album closes with New Yorker *Del Rey*'s sparse cover of Nina Simone and Animals hit *Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood*.

Formed more than ten years ago by a group of university students in Stafford, **Editors** have matured elegantly and are now among the finest exponents of dark, melancholy indie rock. Synths and strings, rather than guitars, are at the forefront of fifth album *In Dream*, which underlines the subtle shift in style since the departure of guitarist Chris Urbanowicz in 2012 and arrival of Justin Lockey and Elliott Williams.

Singer Tim Smith has developed a rich sonorous vocal (think Cave and Ferry) but it is flexible, going from mellow to anguished falsetto on opener *No Harm*. On three tracks he is joined by Slowdive singer Rachel Goswell, a particularly effective partnership on *Ocean Of Night*, *Life Is A Fear* and *Our Love* both have particularly seductive vibes and the album ends at its best with the rather lovely *At All Cost* and the slow-burning epic *Marching Orders*.

Editors are in concert at Birmingham's O2 Academy on October 16.

Exciting is not a word I have previously associated with Oxford's **Foals**. Efficient yes, but never exciting, until fourth album *What Went Down*.

The band have developed some rock muscle to go along with the pulsating percussion and fluid, weaving guitar hooks, and singer/guitarist Yannis Philippakis has a tougher edge to his sometimes maudlin vocals. Both are apparent on the exciting title track and equally rocking *Snake Oil*.

They also do epic pretty well, on *Albatross* and the powerful finale *A Knife In The Ocean*.

American singer/songwriter Nathaniel Rateliff is a good fit with the legendary Stax label, having reinvented himself as frontman of stomping R&B band **Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats**. Their self-titled debut is packed with original songs that will appeal to fans of classic blues and soul. His voice is similar to Paolo Nutini and his style unashamedly old school.

Get sweaty with them at The Institute in Birmingham on October 18.

## Rare treat with Born Again Christians

**Christians, Roachford, Wulfrun Hall** GARRY Christian addresses the audience: "I'm a bit nervous, we've only been doing this for 28 years."

Well, Garry, it shows. A more polished and spine-tingling performance from one of the late '80s biggest bands, would be hard to find, and yet here we were with The Christians and another leading British proponent of fine soul-inspired rock/pop, Roachford, on the same bill. A rare treat indeed.

Garry may be the only surviving member of the band which took the music world by storm in 1987 but he has surrounded himself with amazing musicians. The self-effacing, 49-year-old and cantankerous — so he says — frontman still has that velvety voice which could melt chocolate.

We were treated to all the classics, *Forgotten Town*, *Born Again* and a storming encore rendition of *Harvest For The World*, each one showing off

an amazing vocal blend courtesy of Joey Ankras and Neil Griffiths.

Roachford, of course, is all about one man, Andrew Roachford. Musicality oozed from his fingertips and his band were happy to let him take centre stage with hook-laden classics such as *Only To Be With You*, *The Way I Feel* and *This Generation*, with his breakthrough hit *Cuddly Toy* bringing everyone to their feet for a rousing finale.

Graeme Andrew

## Liz shows serious and playful side

Liz Simcock

Woodman Folk Club

THE friendly Kingswinford club welcomed well travelled singer/songwriter Liz Simcock who took to the stage this time for a solo performance.

Simcock is a gentle, laid back singer who claims to model herself on the great Joni Mitchell although her sound is quiet distinct from her idol.

Her set really consisted of serious and slow moving ballads such as *The Long Haul*, about sticking by each other through thick and thin and *City Girl* about longing to be out in the quiet countryside, or perkier comedy songs such as *The Bouzouki* and the *W3* which was inspired by when she left her newly acquired instrument on a London bus.

There was the occasional twee song too in the form of the *Knitting Song*, not really fodder for the local rugby club, but a nice enough ditty for all that.

Most of the set was taken from her fourth album *Friday Night Train Home* which is available now.

Danny Farragher

## REVIEWS



Violinist Nicola Benedetti performed with passion and verve at Symphony Hall, Birmingham

## Vivaldi by violin virtuoso

Nicola Benedetti, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

ACCLAIMED Scottish violinist Nicola Benedetti paid tribute to her father's homeland with an Italian themed concert on Saturday.

Opening with Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*, the 28-year-old former young musician of the year took the solos in a string ensemble that included her partner on and off stage, German cellist Leonard Elschenbroich.

Miss Benedetti played with vigour and a joy as infectious as her smile but her energetic approach was tempered with an understanding that teased fresh qualities from such a well-known and much-loved piece.

The first half of the concert ended with a Vivaldi excerpt but this time the famous violinist played a supporting role to the highly talented young string players from

the National Children's Orchestra. There was nothing patronising about this addition to the programme as the young musicians' standards were impeccable.

After the interval, came Duetto D'Amore, by Mark-Anthony Turnage, written for Benedetti and her cellist partner. A challenging piece, it reflected the phases and foibles of a human relationship, from discord to harmony. Its five brief sections, lasting a total of 15 minutes, received polite applause rather than the enthusiastic appreciation of the Vivaldi. It was rewarding to hear a new work which had received its premiere as part of this short tour.

The performance ended with the return of her fellow musicians for a romantic Russian take on the Italian theme in Tchaikovsky's *Souvenir De Florence*, which Miss Benedetti led with passion and verve.

Leon Burakowski

Express & Star

VIRTUAL

MOTORSHOW

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST MANUFACTURER & DEALER OFFERS BY VISITING OUR SHOW...

DRIVING EXPERIENCE - COST OF OWNERSHIP - DESIGN & BUILD - RANGE

> VIDEO REVIEWS > DEALERSHIP INFORMATION

NISSAN

CITROËN

MAZDA

SKODA

DAEWOO

BMW

VEVO

DAEWOO

LAND-ROVER

HYUNDAI

RENAULT

KIA

SEAT

MG

VAUXHALL

HONDA

expressandstar.com/drivetime



# fast the ticket

## Swan Lake

Preview – Page 19



### Singing star

Gabrielle Aplin  
See Page 19

**NATIVE MONSTER**  
Entertainment Unleashed

For full listings see **Express & Star** every Friday

## THE ROWLEY BAR & GRILL

### STEAKS

Now Available...

- ◆ Gammon £7.99
- £8.99 Sirloin ◆
- ◆ Ribeye £9.99

All served with chips, peas,  
mushrooms, tomatoes

Happy Hour Deals will now be from noon till 6pm  
Monday to Friday 12 noon till 6pm

All beers £2.30 • All ales £2.30  
Selected Top Shelf Doubles £2.30

• BBQ • BEERS •



sky SPORTS  
BT Sport

**07932 634 531**

47 HAWES LANE, B65 9AE,  
ROWLEY REGIS

[www.therowley.co.uk](http://www.therowley.co.uk)

f FACEBOOK.COM/ROWLEYBARANDGRILL  
t @THEROWLEYBAR



GREAT VALUE COACH HOLIDAYS

- Return coach travel from throughout the West Midlands
- Dinner, bed & breakfast and entertainment at most hotels
- Free excursion programme

Christmas, Yuletide & New Year Breaks!

- Blackpool • Brighton
- Chester • Torquay
- Folkestone • Isle of Wight
- Southampton • Eastbourne
- Weston • Maré
- Scarborough
- Bournemouth • Llandudno

Check out our festive breaks to Pontins, our Mystery Pricebuster special and 13 day Xmas and New Year break to Costa Brava! No single room supplement at selected hotels

4/5 DAYS from

£99.95

FOLKESTONE & BRUGES Christmas Market

Staying at the Burton or Southcliff Hotel, visit to Canterbury plus Eurotunnel trip to Bruges Christmas Market

4/5 DAYS from

£119.95

Christmas Market Weekends

Return coach travel, one/two nights dinner, bed & breakfast

4 DAYS

FRI 11 DEC

£119.95

DURHAM LUMIERE & HOWARD Christmas Markets

B&B to allow maximum time for Brian's largest festival of light

14 NOV

£79.95

BOURNEMOUTH GARDEN OF LIGHT Christmas Market

Plus Christmas Dinner, Santa Claus, and more

2 DAYS

£59.95

CROSS CHANNEL Duty Free Special

Plus Christmas Dinner, Santa Claus, and more

2 DAYS

£69.95

LONDON WINTER WONDERLAND

Covent Garden & Hyde Park Christmas Markets

2, 28 NOV

£69.95

BATH XMAS MARKET

Torquay & Exeter Christmas Markets

27 NOV, 11 DEC

£99.95

BATH CHRISTMAS MARKET

Plus Easter Christmas Market

28 NOV, 5, 12 DEC

£65

CHRISTMAS MARKET TRIPLE BILL

Bohemian, Salzburg & Winchester Christmas Markets

27 NOV, 11 DEC

£99.95

CHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET

Plus Liverpool Cavern Club

20 NOV

£119.95

CHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET

Plus Llandudno Party Weekend

20 NOV, 4 DEC

£89.95

Christmas Market TRIBUTE WEEKENDS

Overnight dinner, bed & breakfast, quality live tributes Act & festive disco

2 FOR 1 DININGS

£59.95

LATE DEAL!

LITTLE TRAINS OF WALES

Caernarfon & Llandudno

5 DAYS

£169.95

Travelstyle

miles more smiles

Call for brochure

0844 682 0086

travelstyletours.co.uk

SELL IT FAST SELL IT LOCAL



HERE'S WHAT SOME OF OUR CUSTOMERS SAY

"The advert started on the Friday, sold on the Saturday!"

Mr Betteley of Stafford sold his Land Rover Discovery using the 6 night Repeat for Free Package

"Sold quickly which was great"

Mrs Burnside of Essington sold her Coachman Amara Caravan using the 3 night Repeat for Free Package

"I had to take advantage of the free repeats part of the package but it's still great that I sold the car"

Mr Brown of Bilston sold his Renault Clio using the 6 night Repeat for Free Package

ONLY

£19.50 FOR 6 NIGHTS

PLUS

6 nights Free if you do not sell!

Includes one week online and your local Chronicles

TELEPHONE - 01902 317878

ON LINE - www.expressandstar.com/boanand

IN PERSON - At your local Express & Star office

\*SOURCE: Jicreg 01.10.2012. Private advertisers only.

Buy Local, Sell Local 01902 317878

ClassifiedAds

Midge Ure



Sunday, 8pm Wulfrun Hall, W'ton

He's an artist who has received Ivor Novello, Grammy, BASCAP awards along with a flotilla of gold and platinum records so really needs very little introduction.

Visit [www.wolvescivic.co.uk](http://www.wolvescivic.co.uk)

Alfie Moore: The Naked Stun



Sunday, 8pm Slade Rooms, W'ton

Former police sergeant turned stand-up comedian Alfie tases his way through 90 minutes of hilarious and fascinating anecdotes drawn from his years on the beat.

Visit [www.wolvescivic.co.uk](http://www.wolvescivic.co.uk)

POP & ROCK

**Biters**  
Wed at 7pm, £8.50  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ.  
Call 0870 320 7000

**Dreaming Of Kate: Kate Bush Tribute**  
Fri at 7.30pm, £15 - £16  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**The Coast Road**  
Fri at 7.45pm, £6 - £8  
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

**Gabrielle Aplin**  
Sun at 7pm, £12.50  
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

**The Icicle Works**  
Sat at 12am,  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ.  
Call 0870 320 7000

**Barenaked Ladies**  
Wed at 7pm, £28  
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

**Midge Ure**  
Sun at 8pm, £20  
Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, WV1 1RQ.  
Call 0870 320 7000

**Gordon Hendricks & The Passionettes: Elvis Tribute**  
Sat at 7.30pm, Sun at 7.30pm, £12 - £19  
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.  
Call 01527 577330

**Johnny Marr**  
Mon at 7pm - 11pm, £24  
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

**Kick Up The 80s**  
Sat at 7.30pm, £8 - £9.50  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**Jack Savoretti**  
Sat at 6.30pm, £19  
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

**Starsailor**  
Thu at 7pm, £19.50  
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

**An Evening With Bruce Cockburn**  
Mon at 8.30pm, £16 - £18  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**Rob Kingsley: A Vision Of Elvis: Elvis Presley Tribute**  
Sat at 7.30pm, £19.50  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

**Leo Sayer: Restless Years**  
Thu at 8.30pm, £17.50 - £25  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**Purple Zeppelin: Deep Purple & Led Zeppelin Tribute**  
Fri at 7.30pm, £15 - £16  
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.  
Call 01543 578762

**God Damn**  
Fri at 7pm, £8  
The Rainbow, Birmingham, B12 0LD.  
Call 0121 753 1818

**Whitney Queen Of The Night**  
Thu at 7.30pm, £26 - £27.90  
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

**Paradise Lost - The Plague Within Tour**  
Sat at 7.30pm - 11pm, £18  
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ.  
Call 0870 320 7000

**James Bay**  
Thu at 7pm, £19.50  
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB.  
Call 0121 622 8250

**Belinda Carlisle**  
Sun at 8pm - 10.30pm, £32.50  
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.  
Call 0121 780 3333

**Squeeze**  
Sat at 7pm - 10pm, £32.50 - £47.50  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

**Swede Dreamz: Abba Tribute**  
Fri - Sat at 7.30pm - 2am, £8  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

**Legends Live**  
Sun at 7.30pm, £43.20 - £50.20  
Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, B1 2AA.  
Call 0121 780 4141

**Mallory Knox**  
Fri at 7pm, £14  
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

**Syria Crisis Appeal Rockfest**  
Sun at 2pm - 10pm, £6  
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
Call 0844 870 0000

**Ultra 90's: 90s Dance Tribute**  
Sat at 7.30pm, £9  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN.  
Call 01384 397177

**Layla Tutt**  
Sun at 8pm - 11pm,  
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
Call 0844 870 0000

That'll Be The Day



Friday, 7.30pm Stafford Gatehouse

Prepare for a nostalgia party extravaganza as the legendary rock 'n' roll variety show That'll Be The Day appears with its brand new 30th anniversary special.

[www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk](http://www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk)

**Strauss' Salome**  
Fri at 7.30pm - 10pm, £9.50 - £45  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.  
Call 0121 780 3333

**Something Good: At Dawn, Solar Noon and Dusk**  
Fri at 9am - 6pm, Sat at 9am - 6pm, Free  
Birmingham Cathedral, B3 2QB.  
Call 0121 262 1840

**Performance Platform: Robert Levin**  
Tue at 1.05pm - 2pm, 3pm, £3.50 - £6.50  
Birmingham Conservatoire, B3 3HG. Call 0121 331 5901

**Monday Showcase: Haydn, Beethoven**  
Mon at 1pm - 2pm, Free  
Birmingham Conservatoire, B3 3HG. Call 0121 331 5901

**Tamsin Waley-Cohen Plays Mendelssohn**  
Wed at 2.30pm, £8.50 - £23.50  
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.  
Call 0121 780 3333

**DMS Anniversary Concert - A Fusion of Music and Dance**  
Sun at 7pm, £6 - £18.50  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

THEATRE

**The Supreme Fabulettes In Viva Las Divas**  
Fri at 7.30pm, £18.25 - £19.25  
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

**Sunshine On Leith**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £15 - £17  
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.  
Call 0121 643 5858

**Birmingham Royal Ballet: Kin/Theme And Variations/Enigma Variations**  
Thu at 7.30pm, £5 - £85.50  
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

**Bouncers**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm, £10/£9  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.  
Call 01785 254653

**Vienna Festival Ballet: Coppelia**  
Thu at 7.30pm, £11 - £64  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

**Relatively Speaking: The Nonentities.**  
Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £10 - £12.50  
The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster, DY10 2RX.  
Call 01562 743745

Shrek The Musical



Until Oct 11 Grand, Wolverhampton

The monster musical that is Shrek continues its run at Wolverhampton Grand this week. The show which will delight families finishes on October 11, so don't miss out.

Visit [www.grandtheatre.co.uk](http://www.grandtheatre.co.uk)

**Shrek The Musical**  
Fri at 7.15pm, Wed at 7.15pm, Thu at 2pm, 2pm, 7.15pm, 7.15pm, £16.50 - £44.50  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.  
Call 01902 573320

**The Shawshank Redemption**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £12.90 - £37.90  
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

**Birmingham Royal Ballet: First Steps: A Child's Swan Lake (Ages 3-7)**  
Fri at 1pm, £10  
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB.  
Call 0844 338 5000

**Birmingham Royal Ballet: Swan Lake**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 2pm, £18 - £106.50  
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

**Tree Fu Tom Live**  
Sat at 1pm, 3.30pm, £10 - £12  
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

**Blöfeld & Baxter: Rogues On The Road**  
Mon at 8pm, £20.35  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ.  
Call 0870 320 7000

**Sally Morgan: Psychic Sally On The Road**  
Tue at 7.30pm, £23.50 - £27.90  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

**An Evening With Adam Henson: Talk**  
Fri at 7.30pm, £20.50  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

COMEDY

**Doug Stanhope**  
Wed at 7.30pm - 10.30pm, £30  
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB.  
Call 0121 622 8250

**Roy Chubby Brown**  
Thu at 7.30pm, £20 - £21  
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.  
Call 01543 578762

**Jason Byrne: 20 Years A Clown**  
Sat at 8pm - 10.30pm, £17.50  
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.  
Call 0121 780 3333

**Alfie Moore: The Naked Stun**  
Sun at 8pm, £11 - £12  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320

Check out full listings in the ticket in Friday's Express & Star



# Dancers celebrate silver anniversary

ONE of the greatest ballets of all time will feature as part of the Birmingham Royal Ballet's 25th anniversary season at the city's Hippodrome theatre.

BRB will perform Swan Lake until Tuesday, October 6, before returning to the venue from October 8 to 10 with Variations Triple Bill, which will feature Theme and Variations, Kin and Enigma Variations.

BRB is one of the world's leading classical companies and the UK's premiere touring ballet company. It has staged 139 different ballets over the course of around 225 weeks of performances during its 25 years in Birmingham.

The company is celebrating its silver anniversary and celebrations will begin with the return of one of the company's most beloved productions, Swan Lake, featuring an ensemble of 50 dancers and an orchestra of 60, towering Gothic sets and beautiful classical costumes.

The classic production of ballet's greatest love story features a sumptuous design by Philip Prowse with spectacular costumes including the famous flock of white tutus appearing from a lake of dry ice.

The Royal Ballet Sinfonia's 60 musicians will bring Tchaikovsky's legendary score to life in a spectacular evening.

The Variations triple bill will bring back to the stage the first piece ever performed by Birmingham Royal Ballet in the city, George Balanchine's



A scene from Kin, part of the Variations Triple Bill by Birmingham Royal Ballet

Theme and Variations. Tickets to the special evening of three unique and different ballets are priced at exclusive anniversary rates with over 200 seats at each performance available at just £10.

BRB will also be exhibiting many of the costumes that have featured in

its productions. For the first time, the company has teamed up with one of the city's department stores, House of Fraser to display highlights from the company's extensive catalogue of costumes. Birmingham Royal Ballet: 25 Years of Costume is on show at House of Fraser until October 11.



## Light approach from Gabrielle

HER Birmingham gig has already sold out. But perhaps that should come as no surprise.

After all, Gabrielle Aplin enjoyed huge success with her debut album, English Rain, which prompted an incredible 63.5 million plays on Spotify, 80 million YouTube views, 1.5 million single sales and No 1 chart positions in both the UK and Australia.

And, of course, she enjoyed a huge number one single three years back with a festive rendition of Frankie Goes To Hollywood's The Power Of Love.

She's back on the road soon, headlining Birmingham's Institute on Sunday to preview her new album, Light Up The Dark.

The record was written and recorded in a producer-friend's house, Luke Potashnick, in a corner of Stoke Newington, London. Both intimate and expansive, its songs bristle with energy, crackle with atmosphere and swagger with a Feist-meets-Cat Power brainy cool.

"I've just seen stuff, and I wanted to write about more stuff," is the simple explanation by the 22-year-old from Wiltshire of the progression evident on new songs like the euphoric title track and the punchy, soulful first single 'Skel-eton'.

"Light Up The Dark was really speedy. It felt as though I blinked and it was done. We would write the songs, have lunch, then start the demos. But the demos became the recordings. We liked what we'd done so much.

"And now, generally, it doesn't sound like I'm trying too hard when I sing."

### Singer-songwriters are coming to Brum

LEADING singer-songwriters Jack Savoretti and James Bay both have gigs coming up in Birmingham.

Savoretti, who released fourth album Written in Scars this year, has sold out The Institute in Digbeth on Saturday.

Bay topped the charts with his debut album Chaos and the Calm and is also likely to face a full house when he is in concert at the O2 Academy on Thursday, October 8.

Otherwise, it's rock all the way with Mallory Knox at the Wulfrun Hall tomorrow (Fri), and Fall Out Boy at the Barclaycard Arena on Tuesday, also the night Teenage Dirtbag outfit Wheatus are at the O2 Academy.

### Dog gone tales and confused heroes

ACCLAIMED Cornwall-based theatre company Kneehigh have brought their hard-hitting new musical inspired by John Gay's 18th century satire The Beggar's Opera to Birmingham Rep. Entitled Dead Dog In A Suitcase (And Other Love Songs), it's final performance is in the main house on Saturday.

How To Be A Hero by Bernadette Russell and Gareth Brierley tells of potential caped crusaders confused over how to tell good folk from the bad. It is also on until Saturday, in Birmingham Rep's smaller venue The Door.

Call 0121 236 4455 or visit [www.birmingham-rep.co.uk](http://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk)

### Back to the 1980s weekend nostalgia

FOUR major acts from the 1980s are in concert across the West Midlands this weekend.

Chroniclers of everyday life, Squeeze, are back with an album named after their theme to TV sitcom Cradle To The Grave and in concert at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on Saturday. In Wolverhampton that night Icicle Works with Ian McNabb play The Slade Rooms.

Live Aid co-founder and former Ultravox frontman Midge Ure is at the Wulfrun Hall on Sunday, the same night ex-Gos singer Belinda Carlisle, a chart-topper with solo hit Heaven Is A Place On Earth, plays Birmingham Town Hall.

**Great Bar...Great Food...  
Great Entertainment...**

# Knights Quest

FRIDAY 2ND OCTOBER  
**DAZZLER FOLLOWED BY SHANES DISCO**

SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER  
**PURE MAGIC**

SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER  
**STARMAKERS SUNDAY KARAOKE PARTY**

MONDAY 5TH OCTOBER  
**THE QUEST FUN QUIZ & KARAOKE SHOW**

TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER  
**TUESDAY ITS....PREDATORS KARAOKE**

WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER  
**OUR GAZ ...AKA TYLER JON**

THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER  
**STARMAKERS KARAOKE**

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN**

**DRESS CODE...  
Dress to Impress!**

**SUNDAY CARVERY**  
Only **£4.95**  
12 noon-5 pm

**DAILY CARVERY** **Only £3.45**

We also serve **GREAT STEAK & GRILL DEALS**

Mon-Thurs : 12.00-2.30pm, 6-8pm | Fri-Sat 12.00-2.30pm

**"It's Great Down the Pub!"**

**High Street, Blackheath**  
**Tel: 0121 561 5599**

We serve until 1am on Sundays, Midnight Monday-Wednesday, 1am Thursday, 2am Friday & Saturday  
**DOORS CLOSE 11.00 pm Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun**

Find us at [www.theknightsquest.co.uk](http://www.theknightsquest.co.uk)

**GREAT VALUE COACH TOURS**

Return coach travel from your local West Mids pick-up point

**Skipton Medieval Yuletide Fayre & Manchester Xmas Market**  
2 DAYS ONLY £65

★ Visits to Skipton Medieval Yuletide Fayre and Manchester Christmas Market  
Overnight dinner, bed & breakfast at the Savoy Hotel, Blackpool  
SATURDAY 14 Nov

**Durham Lumiere**  
Haworth Christmas Market & Bronte Steam Special  
2 DAYS ONLY £79.95

★ Set in historic Durham Britain's largest festival of light plus free time at Haworth's Christmas Market & a nostalgic Steam Ride through Bronte Country  
Overnight bed & breakfast at a selected hotel

**2 FOR 1 DRINKS 6-9pm (see app)**

**BOOK NOW OR CALL FOR FREE BROCHURE**  
**0844 682 2618**  
or visit [travelstyletours.co.uk](http://travelstyletours.co.uk)

**Travelstyle**  
miles more smiles

**BARRY WELCOMES YOU**

**Quiz Night COMING SOON!**

**GREAT CASK ALES**

**FUNCTION ROOM**

**FULL MENU AVAILABLE**

**BEER GARDEN**

**FAMILIES WELCOME**

**THE LIGHTHOUSE**  
COOMBS ROAD,  
HALESOWEN  
**0121 559 7952**

**GRAFTON MANOR WEDDINGS**

You'll love this - come to our WEDDING OPEN DAY at Grafton Manor on

**SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER**  
**11:30am - 4:30pm**

**EVERYONE WILL BE HERE...**  
Family, Suppliers and our Fantastic Staff

Take a look around our stunning Elizabethan Manor House, grounds and lake.

**On-site BRIDAL DESIGNS and FORMAL SUIT HIRE shops.**

Wedding Dresses - Suits - Cars  
Toast master - Entertainment  
Horse and Carriage  
Photographers - Video Guys - Wedding  
Invitations - Florists - Hair and Beauty  
Ice Cream - Canapes - Bar

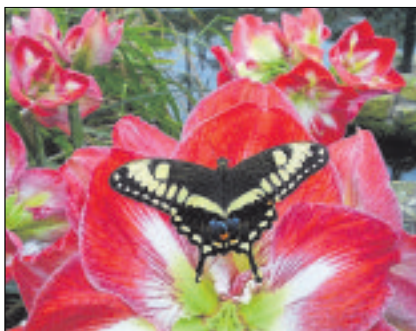
Grafton Manor, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B61 7HA  
T: 01527 579007  
[www.graftonmanorhotel.co.uk](http://www.graftonmanorhotel.co.uk)

**GRAFTON MANOR OPEN DAY**  
**Sunday 18th October 11.30am - 4.30pm**





There are many way to cruise along the River Avon



Flying high – don't miss the butterfly farm



Waterway to see Stratford – take a river cruise past the impressive Royal Shakespeare Theatre



Worth a visit – Shakespeare Birthplace Trust

# Enjoy a break just as you like it

**FATE** decided that a small Midlands riverside town would witness the birth of arguably the greatest playwright the world has ever known.

This alone secured Stratford-upon-Avon's destiny as a world-class destination, welcoming some five and a half million visitors every year. And it's about to get bigger!

Next year is the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death with literature fans, academics and tourists from across the world set to descend on the town to take part in the festivities.

It will be a wonderful celebration to be a part of. But if you want to see some of the many jewels this beautiful market town has to offer in relative peace then it is probably best to go now.

Stratford-upon-Avon is breathtakingly picturesque and almost on our doorstep. You don't have to be a Shakespeare fan to enjoy it either; visitors can find tranquillity along the River Avon, check out a host of family attractions, enjoy top shopping and fine restaurants. Any trip can be exactly As You Like It though, if you do like a little

By Diane Davies

prose, live theatre and care to drop out the odd Shakespeare quote then you'll be spoilt rotten here.

The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust runs a number of Tudor homes linked to the Bard, transporting visitors back to the 16th century. The most popular is, of course, the Birthplace museum, the family home where following his birth in April 1564 he was raised in a time when the town was gripped by the bubonic plague.

It's known that, at the age of 18, William lived at the house in Henley Street for a time with his new bride Anne Hathaway who was already three months pregnant.

There are traditional English gardens behind the house and here you can often catch ad hoc performances by actors who take requests. On a sunny afternoon I wiled away some time watching these casual performances.

Also very popular is Anne Hathaway's Cottage in a small wooded valley on the outskirts of the town. The former farmhouse feels fixed in time and includes some orig-

inal artefacts from the Hathaway's family home. In nearby Wilmcote is Mary Arden's farm. Mary was Shakespeare's mother and she inherited the farm. Here there are nature trails, archery, falconry and animals as well as an adventure playground.

No visitor to Stratford could fail to spot the imposing Royal Shakespeare Theatre overlooking the river. In fact, the RSC owns a large swathe of the town from the theatre right up to the Holy Trinity Church. To watch a show here is to see Shakespeare at its finest. The actors are of the highest calibre and no production is ever the same.

## Impressive

But if you don't have time to watch a production or think theatre is Much Ado About Nothing, it's worth joining one of the behind-the-scenes tours, offering a chance to sit inside the impressive theatre and hear of its recent transformation. You also get to go into wardrobe, the 'control room', see the dressing rooms, and some of the exquisite costumes and learn some of the technical secrets such as the truth about David Tennant's hair in Richard II.

Stratford itself still follows a medieval

grid pattern of streets and it's easy to navigate. However, a lovely way to view the town from a different angle is along the River Avon be it via a rowing boat, motorboat, canoe or punt. We enjoyed a 40-minute river cruise thanks to Avon Boating.

Everywhere you turn in Stratford there are historic buildings but if you want to really submerge yourself in the experience I recommend the four-star Macdonald Alveston Manor Hotel, just minutes from the town but offering an oasis of tranquillity.

Stratford offers a range of restaurants to suit every budget from a Marco Pierre White to Wetherspoons, but you would be missing out on a real treat if you didn't dine at the hotel's award-winning Manor Restaurant.

If you are looking for something to do with the children there are several attractions such as Tudor World, ghost walks, or the Butterfly Farm.



Should you have time to spare there are a host of shops in the town from high street stores, to more exclusive names and some unique businesses. So the question now is not 'to be in Stratford or not to be' – rather when will we be there again?



**Sunbeach Holiday Park, Llwyngwril, Gwynedd, Wales, LL37 2QQ**  
**t: 01341 250263**  
**e: sunbeach@allenscaravans.com**



**Massive Complex Refurb with Indoor Pool & Splash Area, Soft Play, Games Room, Adventure Playground, Shop, Restaurant and Bar.**

Also on Park is a Boat Park, Own Beach and it's Open 11 Months

**www.AllensCaravans.com**

## THE TALBOT HOTEL

### STOURBRIDGE



**BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN FOR**  
**CHRISTMAS PARTIES**  
**CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH**  
**BOXING DAY CARVERY**  
**WEDDING FAYRE**  
**NOVEMBER 14TH & 15TH**  
*We are now licensed to hold civil wedding ceremonies*  
 The Talbot Hotel  
 High Street, Stourbridge,  
 West Midlands DY8 1DV  
 Tel: 01384 394350 F: 01384 371318  
 E: info@thetalbot-hotel.co.uk  
 www.thetalbot-hotel.co.uk

## Christmas & New Year Celebrations AT BENJAMINS

**SATURDAY 5th & 19th December**  
 5 piece live band  
**ELECTRIC IDOLS**  
**3 COURSE CHRISTMAS MEAL WITH COFFEE AND MINTS**  
 Doors open at 7.30pm and the meal starts about 8pm  
**£30.00 per person**

**FRIDAY 11th & SATURDAY 12th DECEMBER**  
**SHARE A PARTY DISCO**  
**3 COURSE CHRISTMAS MEAL WITH COFFEE & MINTS**  
 With Decorations, Crackers, Party Poppers, Balloons + Disco till late  
 Late Doors open at 7.30pm and the meal starts about 8pm  
 The Disco goes on till the early hours

**CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH**  
**ADULTS £30 CHILDREN (5-10 YEARS £15)**  
**CHILDREN UNDER 5 FREE**  
 NO RUSH AND NO WAITING

**NEW YEARS EVE**  
**FAMILY DISCO PARTY**  
**INCLUDING BUFFET**  
**ADULTS £15 | CHILDREN UNDER 14 £7.50**

Birmingham Street, Halesowen, B63 3HW **0121 602 02 02**



CHOICE



Tony Robinson

**Britain's Best Loved Sitcoms (Channel 4, 8pm)**  
Over the years they have made us laugh, occasionally cry and have turned jobbing actors into household names. They are of course situation comedies, and Blighty has produced some of the best the world has ever seen. Tamsin Greig has starred in a few of her own, including Episodes, Black Books and the wonderfully surreal Green Wing, so who better to narrate this two-part countdown of the nation's favourite based on a recent poll? Whether you're a fan of old school classics like Dad's Army, or the ratings-busting Mrs Brown's Boys, there's a little something for everyone here. It also features interviews with a host of famous faces, including Brendan O'Carroll, Richard Wilson, Tony Robinson and Wendy Craig.

BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 12.50 Saturday Sportsday. 1.00 Rugby League: Super League Play-Offs. 2.00 Bargain Hunt. (R) 3.00 Escape to the Continent. (R) 4.00 Final Score. 5.10 BBC News. 5.20 Regional Programme. 5.30 Pointless Celebrities.  
**6.20 Strictly Come Dancing.** Tess Daly and Claudia Winkelman present the first of this weekend's two shows – and this is when things get serious. There are no more second chances for the twinkie-toed stars as they and their partners step out onto the dance floor again. Tomorrow the first pro-celebrity couple will be leaving the competition, as their scores from judges Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Darcy Bussell are added to those of the voting viewers. But which pair will have performed their last dance? The ladies taking to the floor are Anita Rani, Carol Kirkwood, Georgia May Foote, Helen George, Jamella, Katie Derham, Kellie Bright and Kirsty Gallacher. Up for the men are Ainsley Harriott, Anthony Ogogo, Daniel O'Donnell, Iwan Thomas, Jay McGuinness, Jeremy Vine and Peter Andre. The results can be seen tomorrow.  
**8.25 Doctor Who.** When an underwater base comes under attack, the Doctor and Clara must save the frightened crew and defeat an impossible threat that appears to be turning the dead into ghosts.  
**9.10 Casualty.** Iain and Dixie are pushed to the limit during a training exercise, while Dylan and Lofy treat an accident-prone patient.  
**10.00 The National Lottery Live.** The all-important winning numbers are revealed by Gabby Roslin.  
**10.10 BBC News: Weather.**  
**10.30 Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Manchester City v Newcastle United; National Lottery Update.  
**11.55 Film: Anarchman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy.** (2004) Comedy set in the 1970s, starring Will Ferrell and Christina Applegate.  
**1.25 Weather for the Week Ahead.** 1.30 BBC News.

BBC2

**6.00 Film:** Gunga Din. (1939) 7.55 Film: Dean Spanley. (2008) 9.30 The Women's Football Show. (R) 10.00 Animal Park. (R) 10.30 More Creatures Great and Small. (R) 11.00 Animal SOS. (R) 11.30 Animal SOS. (R) 12.00 Great British Menu. (R) 12.30 Great British Menu. (R) 1.00 Great British Menu. (R) 1.30 Great British Menu. (R) 2.00 Film: Silk Stockings. (1957) 3.55 Flog It! (R) 4.55 World's Busiest Railway 2015. (R) 5.55 The Hairy Bikers' Northern Exposure. (R) 6.55 Gardeners' World. Fashion designer Zandra Rhodes explains how flowers influence her work. (R)  
**7.30 Natural World: Honey Badgers – Masters of Mayhem.** A scientist, a beekeeper and a conservationist from South Africa set out to discover if the honey badger's reputation as one of the most fearless animals in the world is justified. (R)  
**8.25 Dad's Army.** (R)  
**9.00 Cradle to Grave.** Danny finally enters Miss Blondel's darkroom. (R)  
**9.30 Boy Meets Girl.** Leo is given a trial at a car showroom. (R)  
**10.00 The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice.** 11 17776 150s back at Wednesday's semi-final, remembering the highlights and presenting unseen footage from the tent as the four remaining bakers competed for the three places in next week's final. This week the theme was chocolate, and here Jo and her fellow panelists meet the unlucky contestant whose efforts weren't quite good enough to impress Paul Hollywood and Mary Berry. They also review the bakers' efforts. What will they think of their signature chocolate tarts? Who rose to the chocolate soufflé technique? And whose showstopping 3D chocolate centrepiece was the centre of attention? They also taste bakes brought in by the studio audience and look at photos of cakes sent in by viewers. It makes you hungry just watching it. (R)  
**10.30 In Case You Missed It.** Dara O Briain hosts a unique TV review show. (R)  
**11.00 Film: Hunky Dory.** (2011) Comedy drama, starring Minnie Driver.  
**12.40 Film: Skeletons.** (2010) 2.15 This is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00 CITY:** Bottom Knockor Street. 6.10 Bottom Knockor Street. (R) 6.20 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.45 Signed Stories: Share a Story. 6.50 Sooly. (R) 7.05 Fish Hooks. 7.25 Adventure Time. 7.45 Marvel Avengers Assemble. 8.15 Horrid Henry. 8.30 Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) 9.00 Jessie. 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 The Unforgettable Frankie Howard. (R) 10.00 All Star Family Fortunes. (R) 10.45 The X Factor. (R) 12.45 ITV News; Weather. 12.55 Downton Abbey. (R) 2.00 Rugby World Cup. Samoa v Japan (Kick-off 2.30pm). 4.20 Rugby World Cup. South Africa v Scotland (Kick-off 4.45pm).  
**6.50 Regional Programme; Weather.**  
**7.00 ITV News: Weather.**  
**7.15 Rugby World Cup.** England v Australia (Kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the Pool A contest from Twickenham, as the teams play their third match of the tournament. These nations have faced each other at five of the seven previous World Cups, and it is England who have the better record of those meetings, winning three of them. The most notable of those from an England perspective was the 20-17 victory in the 2003 final in Sydney, which went some way to avenging the 12-6 loss they suffered in the 1991 final at Twickenham, and provided the national team with its greatest ever moment. Presented by John Inverdale, with analysis from Clive Woodward, Jonny Wilkinson, Michael Lynagh, Jason Robinson and Danny Cipriani, and commentary by Nick Mullins, Lawrence Dallaglio and Ben Kay.  
**10.15 Through the Keyhole.** Keith Lemon snoops around the homes of three mystery celebrities, inviting Mark Wright, Janet Street-Porter and Vernon Kay to guess their identities.  
**11.15 ITV News: Weather.**  
**11.35 Rugby World Cup Highlights.** Samoa v Japan. South Africa v Scotland and England v Australia. Mark Durden-Smith presents action from the matches staged at Stadium mk, St James' Park and Twickenham respectively.  
**12.35 Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas.  
**3.00 Show Me the Telly.** (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

CHANNEL 4

**6.15 How I Met Your Mother.** (R) 6.40 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 7.05 World Mountain Running Championships. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.25 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.50 Come Dine with Me. (R) 11.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 11.55 Come Dine with Me. (R) 12.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 12.55 Come Dine with Me. (R) 1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ascot, Newmarket and Redcar. 4.10 Channel 4 News. 4.35 Couples Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.20 Couples Come Dine with Me. (R)  
**6.05 Location, Location, Location.** Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer are in south-west London, helping long-distance partners Jason and Jaye, and Hannah and Frank, who are searching for a family home. (R)  
**7.00 Celebrity Benchmark.** Chris Ramsey and Joe Swash battle it out for the contestant's chair as Paddy McGuinness hosts another star-studded round of the game show. This week, the Benchmarkers are Phil Tufnell, Susie Dent, Jason Byrne, Bobby George, Michelle Heaton, Louis Smith, Edwina Currie, Mark Watson and James Haskell, and the star who wins the opening duel must assess how well the celebrity panel answered to a series of tricky numerical questions if they hope to win £50,000 for their chosen charity.  
**8.00 Britain's Best Loved Sitcoms.** Part one of two. Tamsin Greig narrates this tribute to the shows that have made millions laugh over the past 50 years, including Dad's Army and Mrs Brown's Boys.  
**9.00 Film: Bridesmaids.** (2011) A disorganised woman is asked to be maid of honour at her best friend's wedding. Taking charge of the prenuptial bridal celebrations, she resolves to give her pal and accompanying bridesmaids the time of their lives, but as her efforts slide into chaos she finds the wife of the groom's boss is keen to usurp her position. Comedy, with Kristen Wiig.  
**11.30 Film: Hope Springs.** (2012) Romantic comedy, with Meryl Streep.  
**1.25 Alan Carr: Chatty Man.** (R) 2.20 Holyoaks. (R) 4.25 Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites. (R) 4.35 Deal or No Deal. (R) 5.25 Fifteen to One. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake!** 10.00 SpongeBob SquarePants. 10.35 Access. 10.50 Cowboy Builders. (R) 11.50 Cowboy Builders. (R) 12.50 Film: Crazy for Christmas. (2005) Family drama, starring Andie MacDowell. 2.45 Film: A Christmas Kiss. (2011) Romantic drama, with Laura Breckenridge and Brendan Fehr. 4.30 Film: Help for Christmas. (2012)  
**6.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** Kevin Stammers and Brian O'Shaughnessy chase a £16,000 debt run up by a coach company and Stewart McCracken and Elmor Victor face a heart-breaking house repossession. (R)  
**7.05 Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops.** This week's collection of viral videos features a woman who decides to conduct a yoga session too close to the sea and a junior weightlifter who smashes a fish tank.  
**7.35 Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops.** This week's collection of videos focuses on the theme of being in the wrong place at the wrong time, and features a pub worker who does not realise a cellar door is open.  
**8.00 Now That's Funny!** The series showcasing the most hilarious internet videos continues with a woman attempting to break a world record with marshmallows.  
**8.55 5 News Weekend.**  
**9.00 Football League Tonight.** Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches, including Leeds United v Birmingham City.  
**10.30 Michael Buble's Christmas Special.** The Grammy-winning Canadian crooner performs classic festive songs, featuring duets with Mary J Blige, Mariah Carey and the Cookie Monster. Part of Channel 5's Christmas Comes Early season. (R)  
**11.25 My Crazy Christmas Obsession.** First of a two-part documentary about people obsessed with the festive period, beginning by following four American households who take decorations to the extreme. Part of Channel 5's Christmas Comes Early season. (R)  
**12.25 The Gadget Show.** (R) 1.20 SuperCasino. 3.10 The Yorkshire Vet. (R) 4.00 Body Donors. (R) 4.50 Make It Big. (R) 5.45 Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Don't Tell the Bride **8.00 Film:** Confessions of a Shopaholic (2009) **9.40 Film:** Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (2011) **11.45** Family Guy **1.55** Asian Provocateur **2.25** Orphan Black **3.55** Close  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Three Men Go to Scotland **8.00** The Search for Alfred the Great **9.00** Backs: The Invasion **10.30** Biggest Band Break Ups and Make Ups **11.30** Music for Misfits: The Story of Indie **12.30** Top of the Pops: 1980 **1.05** A Very British Murder with Lucy Worsley **2.05** Film: Joy Division (2008) **3.40** Close  
**ITV2**  
**11.05** The Cube Celebrity Special: McFly **12.10** You've Been Framed: Kids! **1.10** The X Factor **3.10** The Xtra Factor **4.20** Catchphrase **5.00** Film: The Polar Express (2004) **6.56** Film: Rumour Has It (2005) **9.00** Film: Practical Magic (1998) **11.15** Celebrity Juice **12.05** The Almost Impossible Gameshow **1.05** Release the Hounds **1.55** Safeword **2.30** Rixton: The Hot Desk **2.40** Teleshopping **5.40** ITV2 Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**12.25** Inspector Morse **2.45** Foyle's War **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Lewis **10.00** A Touch of Frost **10.30** Inspector Morse **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping  
**ITV4**  
**11.20** Pawn Stars **12.50** Goodwood Cars of the Future – Road 1.50 Goodwood Classic Cars **2.50** BRD Formula 4 Championship Highlights **3.50** British Touring Car Championship Highlights **5.20** Pawn Stars **7.10** Film: Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol (1987) **9.00** Film: The Blues Brothers (1980) **11.35** Film: The Day of the Jackal (1973) **2.25** Hogan's Heroes **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping  
**EA**  
**11.00** The Goldbergs **12.00** Film: Horton Hears a Who! (2008) **1.45** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **2.00** The Big Bang Theory: Access All Areas **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **6.00** Film: Bride Wars (2009) **7.45** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **8.00** The Big Bang Theory: Top 5 Rat **10.30** Gogglebox **12.40** Bad Robots **1.15** How to Pull the Date of Your Dreams **1.45** The Inbetweeners **2.40** How I Met Your Mother **3.25** Rules of Engagement **4.15** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **4.40** Revenge **Film4**  
**11.00** City of Ember (2008) **1.00** Catch That Kid (2004) **2.45** The Iron Giant (1999) **4.25** Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (2009) **6.10** Robin Hood (2010) **8.55** Macbeth Interview Special **9.00** Iron Man (2008) **11.25** V/H/S/2 (2013) **1.20** Memento (2000) **3.40** Close

Lower tyre prices

at

TYRECITY

LOW PRICES • FAST FITTING

WE ARE OPEN

Mon-Fri 8am-6pm

Sat 8am-5pm

CLASS 4

MOT

ONLY

£25

RRP £54.85

TYRES

FROM

£29.95

Ask in centre for details

TYRECITY

LONG LANE TRADING EST

A4032 LONG LANE

A4034

8-18B MININGS RD

MALT MILL LN

www.tyrecity.co.uk

0121 5595093

45 Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9LS

\*Terms and Conditions apply

We don't just do tyres

✓ BRAKES

✓ EXHAUSTS

✓ ALIGNMENT

✓ BATTERIES

FREE TEA, COFFEE & WiFi WHILE YOU WAIT







FILM CHOICES

**MONDAY**  
**The Four Feathers, Channel 5, 10pm**  
An officer resigns from the military, earning the disdain of his friends – so he sets out to win back their respect. Historical adventure, starring Heath Ledger and Wes Bentley. (2002)

**TUESDAY**  
**Guilty at 17, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A teenager believes her friend when she lies about being sexually harassed by a teacher, and falsely claims to have witnessed an incident. When the accused teacher commits suicide, she is consumed with guilt and begins to suspect she has been deceived. Crime drama, starring Erin Sanders. (2014)

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Obsession, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A woman receives a promotion at work that entails moving to a different city, so decides to end her relationship with her controlling boyfriend and make a fresh start. However, he does not take kindly to the rejection and begins stalking her, hoping to terrorise her into coming back to him. Thriller, starring Charisma Carpenter and Dylan Neal. (2011)



The Punisher, Thursday, Channel 5, 10pm

**THURSDAY**  
**The Punisher, Channel 5, 10pm**  
FBI agent Frank Castle enrages a powerful gangland kingpin when a gunfight accidentally causes the death of the mobster's son. The crime boss retaliates by wiping out Castle's entire family, but the lawman reinvents himself as a vigilante, acting as judge, jury and executioner to the underworld. Thriller based on the Marvel comic-book anti-hero, starring Thomas Jane, John Travolta, Will Patton, Rebecca Romijn and Roy Scheider. (2004)

**FRIDAY**  
**Lay the Favorite, BBC1, 11.55pm**  
A former stripper goes to Las Vegas to seek her fortune, but ends up working as a cocktail waitress. However, a professional gambler hires her to help with his scams and she soon proves to have a knack for it – but arouses the jealousy of her mentor's wife. Comedy, starring Rebecca Hall. (2012)

Taking a fascinating look behind the scenes

When Wayne Rooney blasted home a penalty past Swiss keeper Yann Sommer in England's 2-0 European Qualifying win at Wembley last month, it marked a milestone in the career of the 29-year-old England captain.

It was Rooney's 50th goal for his country and saw him overtake Sir Bobby Charlton's record to become the national team's all-time top scorer.

Now, to mark the achievement the Manchester United striker has given cameras unique access to his life and family, including wife Coleen, their sons Kai and Klay, and all four of the boys' grandparents.

"I have been approached many times about allowing the cameras into our lives and always said no," Rooney says.

"But now seems the right time. This film is not just about my goals, it's about the people I care about the most, my team mates, the people closest to me but most importantly, my family."

The film, presented by Gary Lineker, takes Rooney back to the housing

estates in Merseyside where he grew up as an Everton fan.

Born in Croxeth, Liverpool, Rooney began playing for Liverpool Schoolboys and Coppelhouse boys' club in the local Walton and Kirkdale junior league, before being spotted by Everton scout Bob Pendleton.

Rooney joined Everton aged nine, and was mascot for Toffees in the Merseyside derby as an 11-year-old.

Then on 19 October 2002, five days before his 17th birthday, Rooney scored the winner against Arsenal to end the Gunners' 30-match unbeaten run, and make his the youngest goalscorer in Premier League history.

Rooney also became the youngest player to play for England when he earned his first cap in a friendly against Australia in 2003 aged 17 years and 111 days, and since then Rooney has continued to shine for club and country.

But despite spending his footballing career in the spotlight, Rooney has mostly attempted to keep his private life – with a few highly publicised exceptions.

However, Lineker, who is now third behind Rooney in the list of England scorers with 48, says: "I think that our film will allow the public to discover the real Wayne Rooney."

"It's been great spending time with him and the whole Rooney family. Remember also that Wayne is still only 29, he could push this record considerably higher yet."

Following his journey from humble beginnings to bona fide world-class footballer and record-breaker, this exclusive film promises to show Wayne's world off the pitch.

And according to Tony Pastor, Goalhanger Films creative director, it will be an eye-opener for most football fans. He says: "This film will change many people's view of Wayne Rooney."

"He's an intelligent and thoughtful man with a lot to say about football, family and what it means to represent his country."

With access to Old Trafford and at the England camp, the public will hear first-hand about 'Wazza's' rise to the top – and how those closest to him influenced his career.



Rooney: The Man Behind the Goals, Monday, BBC1, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

**MONDAY**  
**The Celts: Blood, Iron, and Sacrifice with Alice Roberts and Neil Oliver BBC2, 9pm**

New series. Anthropologist Alice Roberts and archaeologist Neil Oliver explore the origins and beliefs of the ancient group of peoples, looking at their highly sophisticated tribal culture and influence on vast areas of the ancient world. They begin by examining the origins of the Celts in the Alps of Central Europe and the moment they first came into contact with the Romans, revealing the pivotal battles that took place between the two rivals came to define the future direction of European civilisation and the shape of the modern-day world.

**TUESDAY**  
**Lewis ITV, 9pm**  
It's 10 years since Kevin Whately returned to the Morse universe to play Robbie Lewis. In that time, this spin-off series has become hugely popular - almost as big as the drama that spawned it - and is a global success. It looks set to continue for some time too, because the standard of the scripts is as high as ever. The latest run begins with a two-part case for Lewis and his sidekick Hathaway. The duo have a new boss to contend with - Chief

Superintendent Moody – who isn't sure that Lewis should have come out of retirement, putting pressure on the veteran detective to solve the crime as quickly as possible. It involves the remains of a body found down a well, and takes Oxford's finest into the complex worlds of social media, drugs, taxidermy, art, the homeless and the city's colleges.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**The Great British Bake Off: The Final BBC1, 8pm**

After weeks of risking soggy bottoms, limp crispbreads and undercooked sponge, only three bakers remain. Yes, it's time for the 2015 grand final, and you can bet that the trio who will battle it out for the engraved cake stand (can't the show's makers think of something more spectacular for the winner?) are more nervous than ever before. Just three more challenges stand before them and the much-coveted title, and it's too close a competition to call. The signature challenge involves turning enriched dough into filled ice buns. That's followed

by the notoriously difficult technical, and then the final chance to impress – the showstopper, which this year will see them bake classic British cakes.

**Thursday**  
**Who Do You Think You Are? BBC1, 9pm**

Mark Gatiss is the youngest of three children born in Sedgefield, County Durham, in 1966 and grew up opposite the imposing Edwardian psychiatric hospital where his father worked. He's always believed the place at least partly inspired his love of all things gothic and mysterious – is he right, or do his genes play a part? Gatiss hopes to find out during this episode, during which he researches his maternal line during a trip to Northern Ireland. He discovers his ancestors were story-tellers, which Gatiss, as a writer as well as an actor, certainly is too. But it's the news that they were also regarded as the real-life version of Dracula's Dr Van Helsing that really shocks him. Sometimes, fact really is stranger than fiction.



The Celts: Blood, Iron, and Sacrifice with Alice Roberts and Neil Oliver, Monday, BBC2, 9pm

**Friday**  
**Great British Menu BBC2, 7pm**  
The final sees the remaining chefs at London's historic Drapers' Hall, tasked to serve up a menu of dishes to mark the centenary of the Women's Institute, serving the ladies, their current chair Janice Langely, Angela Baker who helped inspire the Calendar Girls initiative, and many other guests. The menu was chosen by judges Oliver Peyton, Prue Leith and Matthew Fort from the dishes that had been shortlisted, and to make this all-frills banquet the competitors had to secure a place on that list at least once. Last in the series.

**Euro 2016 Qualifier Live ITV, 7.15pm**  
England have already secured their place in next year's finals in France, and play their penultimate match of their Group E campaign against Estonia at Wembley Stadium. Although some may regard this as a dead rubber, Roy Hodgson's hosts will be eager to maintain their 100-per-cent record in the group, and the Estonians still have slim hopes of qualifying for the play-offs. The reverse fixture 12 months ago saw England claim a narrow victory thanks to their now all-time top scorer Wayne Rooney breaking the deadlock 16 minutes from time.

# USE YOUR LOFT!

## Bison

Loft Ladders

Access your loft safely and easily with Bison loft stairs. A "gas" strut mechanism requiring just fingertip control makes opening and closing your loft stairs exceptionally easy.

- Fully manufactured by us in the Midlands
- Free Survey
- 'Bison' loft ladders, only available from us
- Full 4 year parts & labour guarantee
- The only product available with a safety handle in the loft
- Fitted in approx 2 hours (including making the opening larger)
- NEW: Now available in white no painting required\*
- NEW: Now complete with "comfort" feet to protect carpets and wooden floors.

Over 10,000 Installations

NEW: Long Safety Side Handles\*  
\*at extra cost

We also fit loft flooring, lighting and roof windows.  
All major credit cards accepted

the**loft**stairscompany

The Loft Stairs Company, Unit 60, Aitcham Industrial Estate, Shrewsbury SY4 4UG  
Visit our website [www.theloftstairscompany.co.uk](http://www.theloftstairscompany.co.uk)  
Freephone 0800 389 1281  
or mobile friendly 01743 761499

## Halesowen Fireplaces

AT THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

### Complete Fireplace Packages from £499

(including fire)

For a range of Gas and Electric Fires and Surrounds visit our showroom (opposite Tyre City on Long Lane)

Telephone 0121 559 9985

Unit 14, Long Lane Trading Estate, Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9LD  
[www.halesowenfireplaces.co.uk](http://www.halesowenfireplaces.co.uk)

## DAVID WITHERS BUTCHERS

Established 1990

FROM FIELD TO PLATE WITH COMPLETE INTEGRITY IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN

- Pork and Flavoured Sausages
- Award Winning Pork Pies
- Hot Eating Pies and Pasties
- Homemade Burgers
- Home Reared Beef
- Home Reared Lamb
- Locally Sourced Pork
- Range of Cold Cooked Meats

ASK ABOUT OUR SAVERS CLUB - SPREAD THE COSTS

1 St Kenelms Road, Romsley B62 0NU ☎ 01562 710422

## Designa Blinds

Vertical Blind Specialist

[www.designa-blinds.com](http://www.designa-blinds.com)  
Tel: 0121 293 7119

Child Safe - Cordless Systems  
Full Range of Fabrics  
Fast Reliable Service  
Competitive Pricing

See our showroom on Bearwood Indoor Market

Fabrics only Service available

Conservatories from £275  
Average Semi £300

Showroom at:  
10 Wassel Rd, Hasbury, Halesowen B63 4LF

Factory Showroom:  
Wolverhampton Road South B32 2AX

WE ARE HERE  
WASSAL RD  
WASSAL CL  
ALBERT FORD RD  
ROOSTER  
WASSAL CL  
HAGLEY RD  
Hales Horries  
★ Rose & Crown

# PLUMBMASTER

## SUPPLIERS TO TRADE AND PUBLIC

- Complete central heating and parts available
- Taps • Towel rails
- Showers
- Kitchen Units
- Fascias & guttering
- Bathroom Suites

FREE QUOTES  
FREE DELIVERY

### Gas and Electricity Safety Certificate

6 Genners Lane, Bartley Green, Birmingham, B32 3JL (next to Newman University College)  
Open Mon - Fri 8.30am - 5.00pm, Sat 8.30am - 1.00pm

## 0121 475 1112

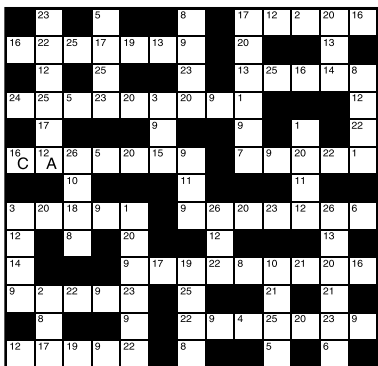
E-mail: [plumbmaster.uk@gmx.com](mailto:plumbmaster.uk@gmx.com)



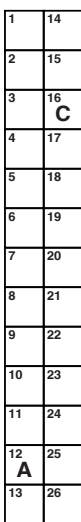
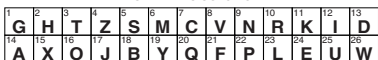
BRAIN GYM No.345

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

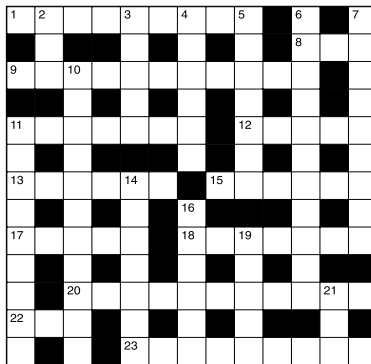
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 1. Makes a joint plan to study architectural features of churches (9)
- 8. Organised part of 6 Down (3)
- 9. Just the spot to show a decline in the tide level (4,2,5)
- 11. Patricia Bird is a model (7)
- 12. Use some of the water in sea - to do this? (5)
- 13. About class improvement in organisation (6)
- 15. Peaceful love-song without any advertisement (6)
- 17. Clubs used on naval defaulters (5)
- 18. As an alternative to being badly stained (7)
- 20. He attends to cases after dark (5-6)
- 22. Nothing to the theologian is strange? (3)
- 23. A gem of a game! (9)

Down

- 2. Blade used for beheading a pig (3)
- 3. See 21 Down
- 4. Rig now adopted for going on the river (6)
- 5. No longer confine the clique without charge (3,4)
- 6. Disposition modified by great manner (11)
- 7. Where you'll find the star before everybody else (2,3,4)
- 10. Describing the exhausted jumper beyond the pale! (3,2,6)
- 11. Convert pride into ruin (9)
- 14. Stays in the office no longer (7)
- 16. Weapon is used in intricate plot (6)
- 19. Porter carrying too much weight! (5)
- 21 & 3Dn. A heady device for picking up a signal! (3-5)



Quick Clues:

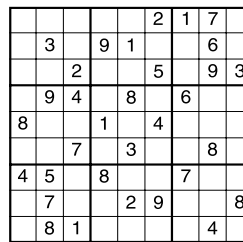
Across

- 1. Wooing (9)
- 8. Self (3)
- 9. Successor (11)
- 11. Respire (7)
- 12. Mistake (5)
- 13. At one (6)
- 15. Fame (6)
- 17. Pulls (5)
- 18. Lift up (7)
- 20. Sincerity (11)
- 22. Iniquity (3)
- 23. Resolve (9)

Down

- 2. Poem (3)
- 3. Pamphlet (5)
- 4. Obeyed (6)
- 5. Go before (7)
- 6. Worsen (11)
- 7. Consistency (9)
- 10. Plight (11)
- 11. Vast (9)
- 14. Made certain (7)
- 16. Turn back (6)
- 19. Come in (5)
- 21. Boy (3)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >



LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Set-off; 4 Assail; 9 All for nothing; 10 Imparts; 11 Least; 12 Tonic; 14 Cross; 18 Reels; 19 Carmine; 21 Fair condition; 22 Enlist; 23 Teaser. Down: 1 Static; 2 Telephone bill; 3 Floor; 5 Settler; 6 Animal spirits; 7 Lights; 8 In use; 13 Insects; 15 Trifle; 16 Scene; 17 Leaner; 20 Raise. QUICK - Across: 1 Appear; 4 Proper; 9 Correspondent; 10 Shelter; 11 Occur; 12 Edict; 14 Group; 18 Incur; 19 Inflate; 21 Collaborating; 22 Daring; 23 Chance. Down: 1 Access; 2 Perpendicular; 3 Agent; 5 Rancour; 6 Preoccupation; 7 Retire; 8 Spare; 13 Certain; 15 Wined; 16 Minor; 17 League; 20 Flash.

Thinking space

Quiz

- 1. Who was the second president of the US?
- 2. On which river does Baghdad stand?
- 3. Which Soviet president died in 1985?
- 4. Which composer wrote The Sorcerer's Apprentice?
- 5. What was a farthingale?
- 6. What were W.S. Gilbert's forenames?
- 7. In which year did Marilyn Monroe marry Arthur Miller?
- 8. What is the busiest airport in France?
- 9. What is the oldest university in Scotland?
- 10. What is a lazy Susan?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 1900; 2 Macbeth; 3 Cherry; 4 1890;

5 A single dot on a computer screen;

6 Ajaccio; 7 Coulomb; 8 Marcel Duchamp;

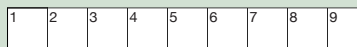
9 Morocco; 10 BRN.

Niner: FACETIOUS

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

269 gives a girl's name,  
8537 gives another girl's name,  
471824 gives a boy's name.



Express & Star



DO YOU NEED HELP  
TO CLIMB THAT  
CAREER LADDER?

REGISTER YOUR CV AND FIND YOUR PERFECT JOB

REGISTER YOUR CV TODAY

JOBS.EXPRESSANDSTAR.COM

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER@RECRUITMENTSTAR



# star extra TRAVEL

For brochures please call the Promotions Team on (01902) 319999  
(Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm) or go to [expressandstar.com/starextratravel](http://expressandstar.com/starextratravel)

## The Canadian Rockies

Eleven days various departure dates 2016 and 2017



Travel on the spectacular Sea to Sky highway to arrive in the famous resort of Whistler and savour the delights of this winter sports and summer hiking centre.

Head north into the Rocky Mountains past Mount Robson to Jasper at the gateway to the National Park. An optional ride on the historic Jasper Tramway – Canada's longest, is offered here.

Another spectacular day awaits on the journey along the Icefields Parkway, one of the world's most scenic drives, to the beautiful, much photographed Lake Louise, set against the backdrop of Victoria Glacier.

Finally explore the bustling capital of the Rockies, Banff, with the chance to join a choice of optional excursions. These include a cable car to the summit of Sulphur mountain, a trip to the scenic Surprise Corner Viewpoint or an unforgettable helicopter ride.



**PRICE FROM £1,199**

Experience some of the world's most spectacular scenery along with Vancouver, Whistler, Jasper and Banff, on this escorted tour of Western Canada.

Vancouver is often voted as the best place in the world to live. To get to know the city better an optional guided tour is offered which includes restored Gastown, colourful Chinatown, plus the glass and steel wonders of the Burrard Inlet waterfront. Free time follows to explore at leisure. Whilst in Vancouver there is also an optional full day tour to Vancouver island, Victoria and Butchart gardens.

### INFO

- Return flights
- Nine nights room-only hotel accommodation
- Journey from Vancouver to Whistler on the Sea to Sky Highway
- Time in Vancouver, Whistler and Banff
- Journey from Jasper, on the Icefields Parkway via Lake Louise to Banff
- Services of the tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by  
Newmarket Air Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)

**Pick of the week**

## Cirque du Soleil Amaluna at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing February 6, 2016



**PRICE FROM £159**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Category 3 ticket for Amaluna at the Royal Albert Hall (upgrades offered)
- Free time in London's West End
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

## Daniel O'Donnell in Bournemouth

Two days departing September 18, 2016



**PRICE FROM £179**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Top price ticket for the Daniel O'Donnell concert at the Bournemouth International Centre
- Visit to a place of interest on the return journey
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

## Thursford Christmas Spectacular

Two days departing December 4 and 11



**PRICE FROM £159.95**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Ticket for the Thursford Christmas Spectacular
- Free time in Cambridge
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

## John Rutter's Christmas Celebration at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing December 7



**PRICE FROM £109**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Ticket to John Rutter's Christmas Celebration at the Royal Albert Hall
- Visit to Hyde Park Winter Wonderland
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

## York St Nicholas Fayre and Harrogate

Two days departing November 28



**PRICE FROM £99**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to York St Nicholas Christmas Fayre
- Visit to Harrogate
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

## In Search of the Northern Lights

Evening excursion  
departing November 9, Feb 2 and 3, 2016



**PRICE FROM £219.95**

- Pre-flight illustrated presentation by an astronomer
- Flight in search of the Northern Lights
- Light refreshments on board
- Services of the astronomer on board
- Services of a tour manager

Please note the Northern Lights are a natural phenomenon which cannot be guaranteed to appear during the flight, although they have been visible on many previous outings

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782, ATOL 6081)

## New Year London Theatre

Three days departing December 30



**PRICE FROM £259.95**

- Return coach travel
- Two nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Dinner and disco at the hotel on New Year's Eve
- Category D ticket for the evening performance of a choice of West End shows on December 30
- Excursion to central London to see the New Year's Day parade
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

## London Weekend by rail

Two days various departure dates



**PRICE FROM £129.95**

- Return standard class rail travel (upgrade offered)
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation at a choice of four-star central London hotels
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Three-day option also offered from £189.95  
Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

## Nice, Monaco and the Cote d'Azur

Eight days various departure dates 2016



**PRICE FROM £849**

- Return flights
- Seven nights bed and breakfast accommodation plus four dinners (two in restaurants)
- Guided walk of Nice
- Visit and tour of Monaco and Monte Carlo
- Guided tour of Villa Ephrussi
- Tours of Menton and the perifermeries in Grasse
- Visits to Antibes and St Paul de Vence
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

## Austria's Lakes and Mountains

Eight days various departure dates 2016



**PRICE FROM £919**

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Tour of the Salzkammergut
- Visits to St Wolfgang and the waterfalls at Krimml
- Tour of the Alpine Road including the foot of the Grossglockner
- Guided tour of Salzburg
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

## Keukenhof Gardens and Floralia

Holland and Belgium in Bloom  
Four days departing April 15



**PRICE FROM £239**

- Return coach travel
- Return Eurotunnel from Folkestone to Calais
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Visit to Keukenhof Gardens
- Visit to Floralia at Château de Grand Bigard
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)





# Hicks Hadley

hickshadley.com  
0121 585 6667

Halesowen Office Lettings & Property Management



**BRIERLEY HILL, Gayfield Avenue£775 pcm+Fees**  
Superb modern & totally refurbished 4 bedroom detached house on this very popular estate. (Withymoor Village) Featuring an entrance hall leading to study room, downstairs w.c., large lounge with separate dining room, fitted kitchen with 'Country Chef' range cooker, 3 double bedrooms & 1 single family bathroom with shower, garage & driveway. Not to be missed!! EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Blackberry Lane£750 pcm+Fees**  
A superb 2 bedroom detached house with separate entrance to rear, fully refurbished to a high standard comprising of 2 reception rooms, fitted breakfast kitchen, guest w.c., 2 double bedrooms, shower room, gas central heating, double glazing, annex giving extra living or working space. Not to be missed. EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Grange Road£750 pcm+Fees**  
A fantastic opportunity to rent this lovely traditional semi-detached house in central Halesowen which is ideal for shops, transport links and access to Birmingham City Centre. This property comprises of: Front reception room with a bay window and feature fireplace, bay windowed rear lounge, modern fitted kitchen, beautiful rear garden. 2 good size double bedrooms and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, garage. EPC: D



**HALESOWEN, Attwood Street£650 pcm+Fees**  
Large spacious corner end terrace available with 4 double bedrooms. Featuring, gch & double glazing, requiring internal inspection and comprising: hallway, 2 reception rooms both with feature fireplace, downstairs 4th bedroom, attractive re-fitted kitchen with fitted range cooker, gallery landing with 3 double bedrooms off, attractive house bathroom with corner suite and separate shower cubicle, garage and pleasant courtyard. Available Now. EPC: F



**HALESOWEN, Sanderson Place£650 pcm+Fees**  
Luxury living in Hayley Green. A superb ground floor apartment offering spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen and diner, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, further appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. EPC: B



**BEARWOOD, Marlborough Road£625 pcm+Fees**  
A superb 2 bedroom mid terrace house located in this very popular area of Bearwood. The property offers spacious accommodation with 2 reception rooms, modern kitchen with oven/hob, 2 double bedrooms, beautiful family bathroom with corner shower & free standing bath, private rear garden. On road parking. Available Now. EPC: D



**HALESOWEN, Margaret Avenue£575 pcm+Fees**  
This unfurnished mid terrace property is ideally located for local shops and bus links into Birmingham City Centre and Stourbridge. The property features lounge, modern fitted kitchen, downstairs w.c., 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower over bath. Also benefits from double glazing, gas central heating, rear garden and driveway parking. EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Talbot Street£575 pcm+Fees**  
A fabulous newly renovated mid-terrace house with complete re-wire, new alarm system, new roof, new 'A' rated Bosch boiler, gas central heating, new carpets & decorated throughout comprising of 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom with shower, 3 bedrooms, rear garden, on road parking. Ideally located a short distance from local shops. Cradley Train Station and the number 9 bus route. Available Now. EPC: E



**TIPTON, Stanton Grove £550 pcm+Fees**  
Modern semi-detached house in a quiet cul-de-sac position featuring a nice sized lounge with fireplace, fitted kitchen/dining area, patio doors leading to rear garden, 2 good size bedrooms, master with fitted wardrobes & en-suite shower room & family bathroom, parking for 2 cars. Available immediately. EPC: D



**ROWLEY REGIS, Client View£550 pcm+Fees**  
A fantastic opportunity to rent a new build property on a select development. This 2 bed end terrace is finished to an exceptional standard. The property features a spacious lounge with patio doors leading to a low maintenance garden, modern fitted kitchen with integrated cooker/hob, downstairs w.c., 2 double bedrooms both with large fitted wardrobes. Also benefits from off road rear parking for 2 cars, double glazing and gas central heating. EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Whitehall Court£525 pcm+Fees**  
Centrally located to Halesowen Town Centre is this well presented 1st floor flat with private entrance, hallway, kitchen with appliances, living room, bathroom with newly fitted shower, 2 good size bedrooms, communal garden & secure parking to rear of property. Available Now. EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Talbot Street£525 pcm+Fees**  
●●1ST MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE●● Step inside this fantastic 3 bedroom terrace property and you have the opportunity to be the occupiers of this stunning property. Renovated throughout, featuring a lovely kitchen, fully tiled bathroom, windows & doors, carpets and gas central heating system. The property also benefits from patio doors leading onto the garden and an electric shower over the bath. EPC: E



**SEDGLEY, Tudor Vale £495 pcm+Fees**  
Located in this ever popular cul-de-sac is this end mews house, briefly comprising of: gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted dining kitchen, downstairs WC, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, rear garden, driveway parking, unfurnished. EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Hope Street £495 pcm+Fees**  
A fully refurbished ground floor apartment having spacious lounge, refitted kitchen with integrated oven and hob, 3 bedrooms, refitted bathroom and newly fitted carpets. The apartment has a garage and gardens to front and rear, full double glazing and gas central heating. EPC: D



**ROWLEY REGIS, Mildred Way£495 pcm+Fees**  
A beautifully presented and located in a quiet road, is this unfurnished split level semi detached bungalow, briefly comprising of: 1 gallery bedroom with walk in wardrobe, downstairs bathroom with shower, modern fitted kitchen, double glazing, rear garden, driveway parking. EPC: E



**TIPTON, Ferguson Drive £480 pcm+Fees**  
A lovely modern 2nd floor apartment which will benefit from a new internal re-decoration before the commencement of a new tenancy. Featuring 2 bedrooms, spacious lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower, loft space, electric storage heating, double glazing, 2 allocated parking spaces, communal gardens, internal viewing recommended. Deposit £750. EPC: C



**NETHERTON, Round Street£475 pcm+Fees**  
Set in a quiet road, is this lovely semi detached house. Featuring gas central heating, living room, fitted kitchen, 1 double & 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, rear garden and driveway parking for 2 cars. In very popular area and good transport links for Merry Hill. 2 MONTHS DEPOSIT AND A GUARANTOR REQUIRED. THE GUARANTOR MUST BE A HOME OWNER, FAMILY MEMBER AND WORKING. EPC: D



**OLDBURY, Causeway Green Road£425 pcm+Fees**  
Deceptively large and spacious. A split level apartment above local shops, within walking distance to bus links for Langley and Oldbury and close to J2 of the M5 comprises gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, parking to rear, with the added bonus of a porch, unfurnished. EPC: D



**LYE, High Street £425 pcm+Fees**  
Located in the centre of Lye at Lye Cross. This split level flat above shops features a large lounge, kitchen with a dining area, 2 double bedrooms and a single bedroom, bathroom with shower, its own private garden terrace area, and is available immediately. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN, Apperley Way£425 pcm+Fees**  
Available on a well sought after estate is this unfurnished 1st floor apartment which is well presented throughout, within walking distance to Cradley Heath train station, featuring a modern fitted kitchen, light and airy lounge, bathroom with shower, 1 bedroom with built in wardrobes, communal drying area. EPC: C



**LYE, High Street £395 pcm+Fees**  
Located in the centre of Lye at Lye Cross. This 2nd floor flat above shops features a large lounge, kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, and is available immediately. EPC: TBC

## PROPERTY

# Three-bedroomed home has a large rear garden



**THIS three-bedroomed semi-detached in Oakham Drive, Dudley, is for sale through Taylors at £154,995.**

With a large rear garden, double glazing and central heating, two reception rooms (including a lounge with sliding patio doors to garden), a driveway frontage flanked by lawn and a garage, this is a well-presented and deceptively large house.

Accommodation comprises an entrance hall, a fitted kitchen with modern light wood-effect units, a utility, a guest cloakroom, three bedrooms and a bathroom.

Contact Taylors on 01384 265265 or visit [www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk](http://www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk)



# Edwardian detached is packed with character



**AN EDWARDIAN four-bedroomed detached family home at Rosehill in Willenhall is packed with character and has scope for improvement. It is for sale through Paul Dubberley at £179,000.**

With a walled and gated block-paved frontage it has an entrance hallway with a Minton tiled floor, a dining room with gas fire in a surround, lounge area with a gas fire, a kitchen with a breakfast bar, free standing electric cooker with hood and floor tiling, a lobby, WC, and a utility.

There is also a study, four bedrooms, a bathroom and a rear garden. For further information contact Paul Dubberley on 01902 633323 or visit the website at [www.pauldubberley.co.uk](http://www.pauldubberley.co.uk)





# Local Specialists

### Alarms

**METRO ALARMS AND SECURITY**  
Burglar Alarm Repairs

Alarms from £249  
Alarms Serviced from £30.00

- Home Alarm Installation
- Upgrades Close Circuit TV
- 30 years Experience

NEW!! Security Cameras Fitted for you to view via your Smart Phone!  
Recorded 24 hours  
Free Quotes & Advice  
01384 350 687  
07904 317 150 (anytime)  
www.metro-alarms.co.uk

### Appliance Repairs

**Washing Machine Repairs and all White Goods**

"Don't go and buy a new one, get it repaired..."

**AA DOMESTICS**  
14 Hagley Road, Halesowen  
01384 413590  
07981 398758

### Driveways & Patios

**Cressage Paving**

Specialists in:  
Block Paving, Tarmac, Landscaping, Graveling, Patios, Forecourts, Fencing and Driveways  
All Groundwork undertaken  
FREE WRITTEN QUOTATION  
Mini Digger & Driver available  
01384 944032  
Mob: 07879 073702  
www.cressage-group.co.uk

### Electricians

**J S QUALITY ELECTRICAL SERVICES LTD**

Fuseboard upgrades / complete rewires / security alarms and lighting / fault finding and repairs / shower replacements and more

Domestic / Industrial / Commercial work undertaken  
Free quotations available Over 20 years' experience

Contact now:  
0121 531 6884 / 07753 393562  
www.jsqualityelectrical.co.uk  
j.selectricalservices@hotmail.co.uk

CERTIFICATIONS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE

### Double Glazing

**Misted Sealed Units?**  
**Black Country Glazing**

Contact US for a FREE quote!

Manufacturers & Installers of windows, doors & conservatories

'A' Rated Windows as Standard  
10 YEAR GUARANTEE

Energy efficient windows that won't cost the earth

Station Street, Cradley Heath, B64 6AJ  
Est 1987 01384 566100  
www.blackcountryglazing.com

### Builders

**D H Household Maintenance**

Decking to DIY  
Plastering to Plumbing  
All areas covered  
0121 422 8594  
07985 548466

### Carpentry

**CARPENTRY SERVICES**  
ROBERT CHESNEY  
CARPENTRY / JOINERY

KITCHEN FITTING SPECIALIST  
ALL CARPENTRY WORKS  
ROOFS / DOORS / LOCKS  
DECKING SPECIALIST  
CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE  
0121 421 6740  
07779746939

### Fascias Soffits & Guttering

**Roberts Guttering Services**  
20% Discount  
Local Specialists  
Dry Verge Units Fitted  
For All aspects of cleaning & repair call  
Robert for a FREE quote on  
07767869792  
We Fit UPVC Soffits & Fascias

### Electrical

**EW Electrical**  
Kingswinford Limited

Domestic  
Industrial  
Commercial

Fault Finding & Condition Reports  
Rewires/Part Rewires  
Additional Sockets  
Shower Replacements  
Intruder Alarms  
Security Lights  
Storage Heaters  
Electric Cooker Repairs  
Visit our website for more services  
Over 16 Years Experience

01384 278471  
www.ewelectrical.co.uk  
INSTALLATIONS 7 DAYS A WEEK

### Blinds & Curtains

**Blinds4Less**  
Leaving a good impression!

Choose from a fantastic range!

- Pleated - Venetians
- Romans - Curtains
- Verticals - Awnings
- Rollers - Shutters

New 3 Year Guarantee on Blinds and up to 10 Year Guarantee on Shutters

Give us a try before you buy!  
Contact us on  
0121 270 6104  
07989 588728  
Blinds4lessdirect.com

### Starkey Electrical Ltd

Manor Lane, Halesowen B62 8PU Domestic, Commercial & Industrial Electricians

For all your electrical needs in the home, garden, driveway or office/retail premises

- Landlord Certification
- Fuse board replacements
- Rewiring
- Energy saving LED Lighting
- Emergency call outs - 7 days a week
- Experienced electricians NICEIC regulated
- Competitive Prices/FREE quotations

www.starkeyelectrical.co.uk  
stuart@starkeyelectrical.co.uk  
OFFICE: 0121 423 3883 0844 561 7244  
07967 650567 (24 hour call outs)

### SCOTT'S WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIRS

- Misty Units
- Broken Locks
- Door Repairs
- Patio Doors

20 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
ALL WORK GUARANTEED

07973 84 84 38  
0800 034 0344

### THE WINDOW DOCTOR

- Double glazing repairs
- Steamed up units
- Broken door locks
- Patio rollers

Units Fitted from £25  
Established 1990  
Telephone Michael 01384 356251

### DAVID ADAMS CARPENTRY

Doors, loft conversions, laminate flooring, UPVC windows & doors

FREE QUOTATIONS  
30 years experience  
0121 602 1450  
07885 417812

### MB electric

All domestic and commercial electrical works undertaken  
Home rewiring from £800

For a high quality local service call:  
0121 3690311  
07939 503905  
mbelectric.co.uk

### ELECTRICIAN

Fully guaranteed work  
Honest reliable service

**ANT ELECTRIC**

Ring Tony or Julie on  
07974 428 603  
KEEP IT LOCAL  
'No Job Too Small'

### HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING

(General Plumbing and Bathrooms)  
All installations and repairs  
Supply and fit or fit only  
TIDY, MODERN APPROACH. REGISTERED PLUMBER  
No job too small. Friendly service. Free advice and quotes  
Tel: 07968 786449 - 0121-602 6776  
www.household-plumbing.co.uk

### Property Maintenance

**K S SERVICES**

All types of General Repairs to your home and garden  
Also interior and exterior decorating  
Local Friendly Service  
0121 532 4861  
No Job Too Small

### Plastering

**C.A. Plastering**

For competitive quotes on all your refurbishment needs on plastering, boarding, overboarding, partitions, re-skimming and artex covering. Quality rendering and terracotta.

07538 718264

### KJR PLASTERING

SPECIALIST IN ALL ASPECTS OF PLASTERWORK  
CEILINGS ROUGH CASTING CEMENT RENDERING & MONOCOUCHE FINISHES  
Email: kjrplastering@blueyonder.co.uk  
Tel: 0121 602 3112  
Mobile: 07778 383986

### Plastering

**DH PLASTERERS**

FROM boarding, skimming, gatching and repairs TO complete rooms

GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES  
0121 422 8594 or 07985 548466

### Local Specialists

FROM boarding, skimming, gatching and repairs TO complete rooms

GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES  
0121 422 8594 or 07985 548466

### Decorating

**A.S. Painter & Decorator**

Interior & Exterior  
FREE ESTIMATES  
Cleanliness Assured

Call:  
07730 477564

### Computers

**NEED ADVICE ON COMPUTING?**

- All PC Problems Resolved
- Software & Hardware Installed
- Virus & Spyware Removed
- PC Health Checks
- Home Network Implemented
- Internet Connections Installed

DON'T BE FOOLED INTO THINKING YOU NEED A NEW PC  
Call: 0121 422 7646 or 07970 846 552  
JUDRAP PC SUPPORT  
email: support@judrap.com www.judrap.com

### Fencing

**DIRECT FENCING**

Buy Direct from our Manufacturing base from West Bromwich!

6'x6' HEAVY DUTY FEATHER EDGE £19 EACH  
6'x5' HEAVY DUTY FEATHER EDGE £18 EACH  
6'x6' WANEY OVERLAP PANELS £15 EACH  
6'x5' WANEY OVERLAP PANELS £14 EACH  
Also Post-Gravel Board-Gates-Cement-etc

For all your fencing need contact  
07545 091178 or 07975677722  
QUOTE ES1ST FOR PROMOTION PRICE

### LBT Fencing

All types of quality fencing supplied & erected  
Plus decking, slabbing & block paving  
FREE QUOTES  
Tel: 0121 585 9992 or 07884 344616  
www.lbtfencing.co.uk

### Fencing & Gates

All Garden Work Undertaken

- Slabbing
- Block Paving
- Tree Felling
- Turfing
- Garden Clearance

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Manufacturers of all Concrete Products  
eg. Concrete Posts, Gravel Boards  
All work guaranteed Insurance work undertaken  
Over 15 years experience (Public liability covered)

Call Steve on  
01384 242891 or 07970 300586

### Mobile Hairdresser

**MOBILE HAIRDRESSER**

Cuts, Colours, Perms etc

Call Lyndsey 07795 514858

### Cleaning Services

**Done & Dusted 4u**  
All Your Home Help And Cleaning Needs

Are you looking for AFFORDABLE Domestic Cleaning or Home Help Services?

We can take a little stress out of your life by making things Done & Dusted

RATES FROM ONLY £10 PER HOUR  
Contact 07814 177680  
www.doneanddusted4u.co.uk

To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...

1

Call us on...  
01902 319590

2

E-mail us at...  
mark.moore@expressandstar.co.uk

3

Post to...  
Mark Moore, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake  
Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB



# Local Specialists



## Garage Doors

**DOULTON DOORS**  
Garage Doors & uPVC Windows & Doors

Our Extensive Range of  
All Garage Doors Covers  
All Popular Brands



**PROMOTIONAL OFFER**  
**CANOPY FRAME DOORS**  
Fitted from JUST **£550**  
subject to site survey



Complete with Four Point Locking System

We Have  
Everything from  
Canopy to Side  
Hung Styles

Visit Us At  
Doulton Trading Est.,  
Doulton Road,  
Rowley Regis  
B65 8JG

Wrought Iron  
Gates &  
Railings  
available

**DB** All Types of Ornate Gates Made to Measure  
Tel: 01384 413331 | 01902 628018 | 01543 499012  
FreePhone: 0800 0375179 Mobile: 07721 783291  
[www.doultondoors.co.uk](http://www.doultondoors.co.uk)

## DB GARAGE DOORS

- Supply
- Repair
- Up and Over
- Side Hinged
- Made to measure
- FREE Survey & Quotation

- Install
- Roller
- Sectional
- Remote Control
- Doors



[www.dbshutters.co.uk](http://www.dbshutters.co.uk)  
Tel: 0121 422 1990 Mob: 07860 858378

## Handyman

### Midlands Handyman for Home Improvements

e.g. • Flat pack furniture • Curtain and blind hanging • Felting sheds • Changing locks • Painting and decorating • Putting up shelves • Putting in upvc double glazing windows • Laying of ceramic/laminate floors • Hanging doors

ALL AT COMPETITIVE PRICES  
Call Simon for a FREE Quote  
**0121 679 8968 / 07988 263578**

## MOT's

**MOT**  
**£27.99**  
with this advert  
**FREE RE-TEST**

Green Garage, Unit 2a Station Road,  
(rear of Gold Cue Snooker Club), Blackheath, B65 0LJ

**0121 559 6001**



## Skip Hire

**ALL SIZES  
ALL AREAS  
BEST PRICES**

All Size Skips available for immediate delivery  
**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

**SCRAP CARS**  
removed for **FREE**

**07920 885774**  
**01384 482542**



## Gardening

**ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES LTD**

\*Tree Surgeon Specialist \*Stump Grinding/Root Removal  
\*Hedges Pruned/Shaped \*Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes  
\*Fencing \*Turfing \*Concreting \*Driveways & Patios  
\*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation  
**24/7 365 emergency callout service**  
**01384 213644 or 07733 226568**

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified,  
Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified  
**PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES**

## R.A. GARDEN SERVICES

Established 24 years  
Gardening & Landscaping Services  
Including: • Tree Lopping • Hedge Cutting  
• Lawn Mowing • Fencing & Slabbing  
• Low Maintenance Landscaping • Gardens Cleared  
**FULLY INSURED • OAP DISCOUNTS**  
FOR FREE QUOTE CALL:  
**07970 576 638 • 01384 569 143**  
[www.ragardenservices.net](http://www.ragardenservices.net)

**LINDOPS LANDSCAPES**  
All Landscape Work Undertaken  
No Job Too Small or Too Big  
**FREE QUOTATIONS**  
All aspects of Tree Surgery,  
Block Paving, Fencing, etc  
Est. 25 Years  
Ex. Botanical Gardener  
**0121-421 2858**  
**07583 - 748872**  
10% OFF valid until 31st October 2015

## CI PLASTERING

All aspects of Plastering,  
Dry Lining,  
Skimming and Rendering,  
Artex Removed  
Insurance work undertaken  
Call for free estimates  
**0121 4213934**  
**07748 644816**

## Dal's Gardening & Tree Services

- A Good reliable service,
  - A Name you can trust
  - All areas covered
- So don't delay phone today  
for a **FREE** quotation  
**07407 622855**

## SEDGLEY TREE CARE

Professional Tree Surgeon  
All aspects of tree work undertaken  
• TREE REMOVAL  
• CROWN REDUCTION  
• STUMP GRINDING  
• HEDGE TRIMMING  
• GARDEN CLEARANCES  
ALL WASTE REMOVED  
NPTC QUALIFIED  
**07746813358 or 01902 659 692**  
**FOR A FREE QUOTE**

## R & S Gardens

- All garden work undertaken
  - Hedges and lawns cut
  - General tidy and rubbish removed
  - Garden landscaping and fencing work
- Telephone: 07851 323303

## Property Maintenance

**ROWAN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LTD**

- ★ Interior/Exterior Painting And Decorating
- ★ All Aspects Of Plastering And Rendering
- ★ Fascias, Soffits & Guttering
- ★ Roof Repairs & Re-pointing ★ Pressure washing
- ★ Plus Much More....

**CALL NOW FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTATION**  
**01384 213644 or 07733 226568**

AGE CONCERN & LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACTOR, CITY & GUILD QUALIFIED,  
PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE (£5 MILLION) ALL STAFF C.R.B. CERTIFIED  
**PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES**

## Plumbing & Heating

**WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST**

**Gastek Solutions**

24/7 Emergency Call Out

Finance Now Available on new boilers

**WORCESTER accredited installer**

**NEW GASTEK HOME SAFE PLAN**

- BRONZE - £14.99
- SILVER - £16.99
- GOLD - £18.99
- PLATINUM - £21.99
- LANDLORD PLATINUM - £24.99

(All prices are per month+VAT apply)

- Boiler Services
- Landlord Checks
- Full Central Heating Systems
- Boiler Swaps and Conversions
- Bathroom Installations
- Power Flushing
- Gas Appliance Installations
- All Domestic Plumbing Work

**NEW SHOWROOM NOW OPEN**  
Unit B15 Anchor Business Park, Dudley DY2 9AF  
Office Open 8am-6pm Monday-Friday 8am-4pm Saturday  
Tel: 01384 560856  
[info@GastekSolutions.co.uk](mailto:info@GastekSolutions.co.uk) • [www.gastekSolutions.co.uk](http://www.gastekSolutions.co.uk)

## Gas Heating Services

**130 Hagley Road (Shop 6), Halesowen B63 1DY**

- Central Heating
- Gas Fitting
- Cooker Repairs
- Gas Appliance Servicing
- Boiler Maintenance & Repairs
- Specialists in Combination Boilers
- Landlord Inspections
- Family Run Business

**FREE QUOTES**

VISA MasterCard G Maestro

**Call us today for fast, friendly advice**  
**Office: 0121 503 0066**  
[www.gassafe1.com](http://www.gassafe1.com)

## Plumb Serve Plumbing & Heating SPECIALISTS

**Special Offer Boiler Service £50**

- Taps, Toilets, Baths & Waste
- Full Bathroom, En Suites Installed
- Drainage Unblocked/Repaired
- Radiators Fitted/Removed
- Cookers & Fires, Installed & Serviced
- Boiler Install, Serviced & Repaired
- Landlord Safety Checks
- Full Central Heating Systems

**24hr call out, Call us on 07513 094763**  
Card payments accepted

**KEN PERRY**  
PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER  
Gas Fitting, Boiler Servicing and Immersion Heaters, Multi Point Water Heaters, Landlord's Gas Certificates, Boilers changed  
Guild of Master Craftsmen Gas Safe Registered  
STOURBRIDGE 392284

**Local Specialists**

## Roofing

## ALL WEATHER ROOFING

Slating, Tiling, New Roofs, Flat Roofs, Chimneys, Guttering, Ridges, Flashings, uPVC Fascia Cladding  
**FREE ESTIMATES • FAST RELIABLE SERVICE**  
Over 30 years experience  
**0121 420 1582**  
**NO CALL OUT CHARGE**  
Mobile Number: 07947 839451  
[allweatherroofingwestmids.co.uk](http://allweatherroofingwestmids.co.uk)  
[allweatherroofinguk@outlook.com](mailto:allweatherroofinguk@outlook.com)

## ELITE PLASTICS

• Fascias • Soffits • Dry Verge  
• Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair  
Premium Products Expertly Fitted  
With Full Manufacture Guarantee.  
**For A Free Quote call 01384 468831 / 07985 575865**  
[www.eliteplasticsupvc.co.uk](http://www.eliteplasticsupvc.co.uk)

## Services

Fast and friendly service from a family run business, with over 10 years' experience  
**SPECIALISTS IN TILE, SLATE,**  
fibreglass flat roofing, flat felt roofing, uPVC, fascias, soffits and guttering, lead work, pointing and storm damage  
no job too big or too small  
For a free quote call  
**0121 608 3522 or 07841 046 126**  
Kent Road, Halesowen, B62 8PD

## Tiling

## I.C.A. TILING SERVICES

Walls, floors, bathrooms, kitchens and conservatories.  
Ceramic, porcelain, mosaics, slate, marble and all natural stone.  
**FULL BATHROOM INSTALLATION AVAILABLE**  
Quality workmanship at competitive prices.  
Fully insured. Portfolio available.  
For a free quote call Ian on 01384 412796 or 07890 894631

## Upholstery

**JC RE-UPHOLSTERY SERVICES**  
Specialists in Re-upholstery, Repairs and Antiques  
**CONTRACT & DOMESTIC**  
No Job Too Small  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
Choice of patterns  
Quality Workmanship  
• Blackheath  
0121 561 3977 daytime  
or 0121 561 2344 evenings after 6 pm

## Specialists

## Wednesbury Kitchens

- Kitchen and Bathroom Installation
- Building Works
- Extensions • Plastering
- Tiling • Carpentry
- Painting and Decorating
- Plumbing and Electrical Works

**45 Lower High Street, Wednesbury**  
**0121 505 3334**

## Roofing

## SEMI RETIRED ROOFER

Ridge Tiles Rebedded, flat roofing, no job too small  
40 years experience.  
Keith:  
**07546 158165**

## Landscaping

**CARDINAL LANDSCAPES**  
West Midlands  
Specialists in Patios, Driveways, Paths, Fencing, Turfing, Decking and Landscaping  
Call now for a **FREE QUOTE**  
**01902 562600 or 07539 887144**

To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...

**1**

Call us on...  
**01902 319590**

**2**

E-mail us at...  
[mark.moore@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:mark.moore@expressandstar.co.uk)

**3**

Post to...  
Mark Moore, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake  
Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB



Buy Local, Sell Local

funeral directors

**N.E.DOWNING**  
(Blackheath) Ltd

Independent  
family run  
Funeral Directors  
24 hour service  
Halesowen  
0121 422 2794

www.nedowning.co.uk

lost & found

**MISSING** - Since Sunday, September 20, from Noose Lane, Willenhall, Seal Point Siamese Cat, chipped and neutered. Telephone 07908 100926.

1  
Family

elderly & disabled

**MOBILITY SCOOTER**. Four wheels. Fits easily in a car boot. Very good condition. Can deliver locally. £275. 07905 770683.

**World of Mobility**

New Stairlifts from £1,400 fitted

Electric Rise & Recline Chairs from £495

SCOOTERS/ELECTRIC BEDS  
MANUAL WHEELCHAIRS FROM £110

We offer excellent customer service and aftercare on all our products.

Showroom 108C Brettell Lane, Amblecote Stourbridge  
DY8 4BS or call 01384 378252  
OPEN MON-SAT FREE PARKING AT REAR

**BOOK YOUR  
ADVERTISEMENTS  
OR FAMILY  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
ONLINE AT**

bookanad.  
expressandstar.co.uk

and become one  
of hundreds of  
customers  
who regularly  
receive  
exclusive  
special offers  
& discounts.

Classified Ads

**MOBILITY SCOOTERS** from £350 can deliver, servicing available. Call: Powerlink, Blackheath 01384 255019 / 07831 246292.

**WREKIN STAIRLIFTS** reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

jewellery & watches

**2  
Leisure  
Time**

car boot sales

**BEST INDOOR  
BOOT SALE**  
Sellers 8am,  
Buyers 9am - 12pm  
EVERY SUNDAY  
Sports Hall, North East  
Wolverhampton Academy,  
Marsh Lane, Fordhouses,  
Wolverhampton, WV10 6SE  
★ 07890 267041 ★

caravans /  
motorhomes

**BLUEBIRD CAPRICE** 2007, 35ft x 12ft. DG. Ch. Two bed. Holiday use only. On quiet country site near Bridgnorth. £18,500. 01746 711586 / 07951 741185.

**REAL BARGAIN!**

**CARAVAN FOR SALE**  
35 x 12, 2 bed, Mid Wales, new decking, carpets, curtains, fees paid till March 2016, fully equipped, double glazed, central heated. Pictures available. £13,000. 07871 130194.

**FORD TRANSIT LWB**  
2-birth high top camper, 52 reg, 2.4 Turbo diesel, 59k, fully equipped, MoT, awning, captains seats, £4,495 ono. 0121 5300834 or 07434 555159.

**KAMPA RALEIGH** pro 260 awning, very good condition, £145. 01384 863305 or 07970 841177.

**STATIC CARAVAN**  
28 x 10, 2 bedrooms, On quiet park with two fishing pools in Mid Wales in Llanbrynmair. Site fees included for 2015. Dog friendly. £2,500. Call 07922 351352 no texts.

**West Midlands  
Caravan and  
Motorhome Show**  
2016 MODEL LAUNCH  
• Touring Caravans  
• Motorhomes  
• Holiday Homes  
• Luxury Lodges  
FREE TICKETS:  
www.caravanevent.co.uk  
01743 282400  
Salop Leisure, Emstrey,  
Shrewsbury SY5 6QS

fishing

**FISHING TACKLE WANTED** anything considered. New or Old 01602 754011 or 07831 568716

sports & leisure

**Free Ads**  
IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY  
For items upto £250.  
Online at  
bookanad.  
expressandstar.co.uk

holidays

holiday homes

**LUXURY HOLIDAY HOME** For sale on 51' park. Fishing lake, bar, restaurant, Child and pet friendly 20 acres walking woodland. £19,995 inc site fees 01568 708326.

self catering  
holidays

**BURNHAM-ON-SEA**  
Self Catering Holiday  
Apartments  
Disabled Facilities  
Pet Friendly  
01278 794111  
www.GoSomerset.co.uk

what's on

antique fairs

**ANTIQUE/  
COLLECTORS FAIR**  
CORNBOW HALL, HAGLEY STREET,  
HALESOWEN, B63 3AT (NEXT TO  
WILCOS).  
FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER  
8.00AM - 4PM  
07712 597468  
★ www.blackcountryfairs.co.uk ★

**ANTIQUE/COLLECTORS FAIR**  
Kinver Comm Centre, Sun. 4th Oct.  
(Following the last few months of  
successful fairs) also Bromsgrove  
every Fri. 5.30 - 10.30, Waverley,  
Next Book Fair, Sun 18th Oct.  
0121 550 4123.

markets

**BESCOT  
SUNDAY MARKET  
OPEN EVERY SUNDAY**  
Banks's Stadium, Watcalf FC  
WS1 4SA, FREE PARKING, 39 M6  
07889 975701 All hard standing

**3  
Home &  
Services**

furniture

**RECLINER CHAIR** fawn/brown with  
massage, in excellent condition. £225. 0no.  
Telephone 01384 288496.

**TWO SEATER SETTEE**, blue, soft  
leather, £90.  
Telephone 01902 340364.

**WALL MOUNTED Electric Fire**, still  
in box, glass front with pebbles and  
remote. £50 ono. 01384 257290 or  
07511 029209.

**WHITE IKEA** round table, 4 match-  
ing chairs, unused, paid £200, sell  
£100 ono. 01384 594139.

household  
appliances

**FRIDGE FREEZER**, excellent condition,  
£85 can deliver.  
07550 891752.

**RANGEMASTER COOKER**  
110  
Large, gas / electric, 2 ovens, 1  
grill, 5 gas hobs, wok burner,  
ceramic hob, reconditioned,  
beautiful condition. New  
£1,400. Selling £695 ono.  
Telephone 07756 707220.

**RANGEMASTER GOURMET** 110  
gas cooker, in excellent condition,  
royal blue, £400. 01902 892541.

items for sale

**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

**FIFTY LENGTHS** 3in x 3in 10ft  
timber, £3 per length.  
01602 468079.

items wanted

**ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce**  
**CASH PAID TODAY**  
**A GENUINE LADY BUYER**  
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester  
Moorcroft • Lladro • Old coins  
• Watches • Costume Jewellery • Old toys  
• Clocks • Paintings • All silver  
• Chinese items • Old Ivory  
• Military items  
Pre 47 silver coins All war medals etc  
**ANYTHING OLD &  
INTERESTING**  
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

A BEST CASH PRICE

**FOR ALL RAILWAY  
COLLECTIONS**  
Any gauge or age  
Hornby / Bachmann / Bowmans  
/ Roundhouse / Graham / Farsh  
/ any live steam. Also Die Cast,  
Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.  
01384 836219/07891 713547.  
thetrainmaster67@  
hotmail.com

**AIR RIFLES, SHOT GUNS**, Antique  
guns, taxidermy- big bore guns,  
traps etc wanted. 07958 624202.

**OLD POCKET** or writs watches  
wanted, good or broken, collections  
or parts, also old antique jewellery.  
01746 765278 / 07813 345218.

**READERS ARE ADVISED** to carefully  
consider all of their options  
before agreeing to the sale of any of  
their items.

**SPECTRUM GAMES** wanted.  
Please call  
01902 892918.

t.v. / home  
entertainment

service

**AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS**  
Free Estimates on any TV Repairs.  
Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection.  
All areas covered 8 till late. 7 days.  
Digital aeriels, Sky installation.  
Wall mounts & TV setups.  
Call  
**07850 330251**

specialists at  
your service

aerials

**AA DIGITAL  
AERIALS**  
FREEVIEW / TALK TALK / BT VISION  
AERIALS FITTED FROM £75  
Work Guaranteed  
Same Day Service  
01902 858191  
01384 429166  
VISA 01543 439095  
01922 716029  
07833 738857

alarms/security

**PREMIER  
ALARMS**  
Supplied and Fitted £195  
Servicing and Repairs  
12 Months Warranty  
All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!  
Call: 0121 601 9791

blinds

**AB-Blinds**  
Super 7  
7 Child Safe Verticals  
Fitted from only £199  
Call 0800 0347111  
www.ab-blinds.co.uk

building services

**DAVIES & SON  
BUILDERS**  
Extensions, loft conversions,  
roofing, driveways.  
See us on 'Rated People'.  
Call 01902 579592 /  
07837 994465

**A CLASS CARPET &  
UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**  
OAP discount. Recession Prices.  
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10  
Call Paul 07870 341089

fencing

**PORTWAY FENCING**  
\*SPECIAL OFFER\*  
10 Days of quality fencing  
concrete posts, gravel boards &  
heavy duty panels supplied and fitted  
for **£695.00**  
www.portwayfencing.com  
83 Portway Rd, Wednesbury, WS10 7DZ  
Office: 0121 531 5250  
Mobile: 07886 137656

gardening  
services

**GARDENS TIDIED** from £5 per  
garden, 25 years experience. Call  
01902 713105 / 07813 184086.

house clearances

**A ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid  
for house clearances and bereave-  
ments. Also removals undertaken.  
07852 172641 / 07710 360327

painters /  
decorators

**DECORATOR**  
ALL domestic work  
undertaken  
Reliable & Affordable  
Special rates for OAPs  
No job too SMALL  
Call  
**07957 346 059**

**MTK PAINTER & DECORATOR**  
Competitive quotes. OAP discounts.  
01384 340930 / 07825 558940.

removals

**A MAN WITH A VAN** Single items,  
flat/house removals/clearances,  
local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121  
422 2999 or 07815 043724

**CALL DEAN NOW:** For all your  
Removal needs. 07429 453209/  
01902 830870 / 01384 340260.

**CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN.**  
Removals, clearances, large/small.  
01902 741546, 07899 635852.

roofing

**T L Fowkes Roofing  
& Building Solutions**  
FREE QUOTATIONS ON REQUEST  
call or email  
t.fowkes@yahoo.co.uk  
Experts in all roofing and building aspects  
Including:  
• Flat roofing • GRP roofing • Slate and tile roofing  
• uPVC and all major building works  
MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof  
repairs, fascias and gutters. Call  
01902 238899 / 07580 465449.

skip hire

**BLITZ  
SKIPS**  
AFFORDABLE SKIPS  
2-50 YARD SKIPS  
AVAILABLE  
PUNJABI SPEAKERS  
MONDAY-SATURDAY  
7AM-6PM  
01902 870370  
0121 517 1111

**GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD.**  
Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast,  
friendly & reliable service. Monday  
to Saturday 6 day service. Call:  
0121 555 6060.

4  
Pets &  
Animals

equestrian  
corner

**ALL READERS** are advised to  
check if Horses have the required  
Passport information.

guns & dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that  
they meet all necessary legal  
requirements for owning and  
using guns.

pets corner

**BEAUTIFUL KITTENS**, weaned and  
litter trained, £25 to ensure  
good home. 07765 807608.

**BORDER COLLIE** puppies, various  
colours, lovely temperaments, great  
with children. 07444 109572.

**CANARIES FOR SALE.** Red  
Dymorphics. £20 each. 01384  
838849 / 07711 570670.

**EIGHT WEEK** old kittens, weaned  
and litter trained. £25 each.  
01902 689992.

**MARINE FISH TANK** full set up, cost  
£2,000, accept £600. Telephone  
01384 639160.

**MINIATURE TEA CUP** Jack Russell  
pups, small, cute, £150.  
07510 841267.

NOTICE TO READERS

Please be aware that when  
purchasing a puppy there are  
some simple guidelines you can  
follow to ensure that you are not  
purchasing from a Puppy  
Farmer.  
1. Try to ensure you visit the  
puppy whilst it is still with it's  
Mother.  
2. Do not arrange to collect a  
puppy from any other location  
than that of the breeder.  
3. Ensure that you are given any  
KC documentation, if pedigree.  
Whilst Midland News  
Association publications take  
great care to avoid publication  
of advertisements from Puppy  
Farmers we cannot accept any  
liability should readers  
purchase from this kind of  
establishment.

KIND HOMES WANTED

**MILLIE** - 2 year old Staffie /  
Lurcher / Collie, good with other  
dogs and children, a lovely  
gentle girl.

**MURPHY** - 3 year old, very  
handsome black and white  
Border Collie.

**GEORGE** - 10 month old  
Border Collie

**MISTY** - 10 month old black and  
white Border Collie.

**BOSS** - 5 year old white  
Lab/Staffie and Adele (his  
Mom) age 7, perfect pets.

www.dogsmaritans.org.uk  
01588 676106.

**ROSEDENE RESCUE  
CENTRE**

1, Radley Road, Rushall,  
Walsall, WS4 1LN.  
01922 627013.

Require volunteers for kennel  
cleaning, duties to include dog  
walking, feeding and watering.

We also require a driver with a  
clean licence to help take dogs  
to vets and home checks.

Car provided.

Desperate for bedding, ie.  
sheets, blankets, towels,  
quilt covers, (no quilts).

**SPRINGER SPANIEL** puppies, 1  
boy, 1 girl, 10 weeks old, parents  
can be seen. £400. 01384 270740.

vets

Express & Star

THIS SPACE  
COULD BE  
PROMOTING  
YOUR  
BUSINESS

Every day our  
customers get a  
great response  
from Classified  
Advertising.

So could you by  
calling our friendly  
experienced Sales  
Advisors on  
01902 319191.

5  
Business &  
Farming

business  
opportunities

READERS are recommended to  
take appropriate professional  
advice before entering any  
obligations.



Explore your world with

star extra TRAVEL

See us online at:

www.expressandstar.com/starextratavel

UK trips, Europe by coach, air and  
Eurostar, plus holidays further afield.

Brought to you by the  
Express & Star





**BLACK COUNTRY HOMES**

# WE PAY 100% of purchase price

**EVERYTIME!**

## We buy any house

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

- We are a family run local business.
- Buying properties for over 30 years.
- A fair offer from people you can trust.
- No fees - Free solicitors.

*Call Stan on*

**WE ALSO BUY LAND**  
commercial and industrial premises, shops,  
factories, building plots...  
*We'll even buy your garden*

**Text To GOAL 88802**  
and we will call you back now

# 0800 999 999 6

or 01902 628047 24/7 [www.blackcountry-homes.co.uk](http://www.blackcountry-homes.co.uk)

**SOLD!**

**RAMSDENS Property**

**WE PAY CASH!**

**SOLD**

**SELL FAST**  
Property investor needs properties in your area  
Cash payments  
We will cover all your fees  
Quicker service

**01922 689023**  
**0800 731 1160**

**AND GET A BETTER PRICE**

## CASH NOW FOR YOUR HOUSE

- Legal fees paid
- Guaranteed offer
- Any condition
- No fees
- Repossessions stopped
- Subject to terms

**01902 628060**  
**0800 389 6788**

Lines open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

**wolverhampton properties**

**we can buy your house in 2 days**

**LOOK WE BUY ANY HOUSE**

**national homeowners helpline.co.uk**

In a mess? talk in confidence we can help

**WE PAY MORE ANY AREA ANY CONDITION**

**0800 085 6626**  
**0121 274 0398**

**pink run by women**

**sell quick**

- No Fees\*
- Any property
- Any condition
- Free confidential service
- Any area\*
- Repossessions stopped
- Deceased estates

**0800 169 1118 call free** **24 hours 01384 226087**

**Private Investor**

We are looking for houses in your area. We will take any type of property in any condition. Call us first - highest prices paid

Telephone **01922 689023**

straight forward investment solutions

## I CAN BEAT ANY PRICE!

I pay 100% of purchase price

Call now for the best price on your house

- Guaranteed offer\*
- Any condition
- Free solicitors
- No fees\*
- \*Terms apply

**0800 783 2822**  
**01384 226086**

**Dewmark Homes**

**STOP WE PAY MORE!**

100% every time\*  
Free Solicitors No Fees\*  
**0800 313 4566**  
**01384 226086**

Any Property\*  
Any Condition\*  
PI Group  
\*Subject to terms

**+SICK**

of trying to sell your house

Call the HOUSE DOCTOR  
Now for the best price

**0800 783 3225**  
**01922 689023**

**A B C D**

**Better Cash Deal**

Its a simple as that, you get the best deal on your home from

**FIRST GENERAL HOMES**

**0121 308 7786**  
**0800 917 1233**

**One phone call solves all your problems**

sell your house now

A guaranteed offer, no fees, fast completion, any condition, any circumstances

**01902 628047**  
**0800 633 5226**

**Sell your house We are just a phone call away**

- Any circumstances
- Any condition
- No fees - fast completion

**0800 066 5558**  
**0121 274 0398**

**NO STRINGS**

Local Investor pays you more

Call any time

**0800 633 5226 / 01922 689023**

**CALL PENNY for TOP PRICES NOW**

\*Local \*Honest \*Reliable

**0800 389 6788**  
**01384 226086**

**PICK UP the phone CALL NOW**

Best Price Sam

**01543 499032**  
**0800 500 3109**

**6 Property**

**properties wanted**

**A A PROPERTIES** pay A better cash price. Call Richard 07756 022973.

**A BEAT ALL CASH DEAL**  
We pay 100% of purchase price always 0800 085 6626.

**A BEST CASH DEAL PAID**  
for your property every time 01902 628047

**ALWAYS CALL US FIRST**  
for the top price for your house. 0800 169 1118.

**accommodation to let**

**LARGE 2-3 BED 2nd floor Flat,** Dovedale Road, Woodcross, DSS welcome £500pcm. 07889 658792

**NOTICE TO READERS** It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**LARGE ENSUITE** in modern farmhouse in Brewood area, would suit professional, close to M6 and M54, high security. Refs Req. £450pcm inc all bills and internet. 07490 087526.

**MODERN TWO BED Apartment,** ground floor, Dudley Port, £475pcm. No DSS. 07886 357429.

**SMART ROOMS** in shared house, Netherton, from £85 pw inc bills. No DSS. Small deposit 07970 717139

**SPACIOUS 3-BED 1st floor flat,** Bradley St, Pensnett, CH, DG, unfurn £450pcm. 01384 263626.

**7 Jobs**

**TOP GEAR**

**Driver Training**

- LGV / PCV Training
- I-1 Gold Standard Tuition
- Free Assessments
- CPC Courses
- Driver Medicals
- Caravan & Horse Box Tuition available

**0121 585 0834**  
[www.topgear-lgv.com](http://www.topgear-lgv.com)

**electricians**

**FIRE ALARM ENGINEER** required to service and install fire alarm systems, servicing to latest standards and maintaining records, must have a good working knowledge of BS5839, minimum 3 years experience. Duties include servicing and maintenance of fire alarms and CCTV etc also some installation work. Must have full clean driving licence and be willing to travel. Basic depending on experience OTE £35-40k, company vehicle, mobile phone etc. Trainees also required who have some electrical experience. Contact: 0121 559 4969 Email: jobs@nationwidecctv.co.uk

**employment wanted**

**EXPERIENCED BRICKLAYER** seeking employment, private and commercial. 07778 480 411.

**RETIRED TIME SERVED CARPENTER / JOINER**

Requires casual / part time work. Own van / tools.

**01384 375672/07527 360303.**

**I WILL BUY YOUR HOUSE**

Call today for a best price

**0800 731 1160**  
**0121 274 0398**

## Home Cash Buyer

Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish

## Land Required

Ring Paul 24/7local on **07870 341 089**

Sandwell Area Call 0121 696 4154  
Walsall & Cannock Area Call 01922 432049  
Wolverhampton Call 01902 489901  
[www.homecashbuyer.co.uk](http://www.homecashbuyer.co.uk)

**mobile homes**

**overseas property**

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

**courses**

**TELFORD: 30 SEPT - 1 OCT. STOKE-ON-TRENT: 17-18 OCT. DROITWICH: 30 OCT. - 1 NOV. BIRMINGHAM: 1-2 DEC.**

## Learn how to take blood TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST

**NATIONALLY RECOGNISED AND ACCREDITED**  
**Introduction to Phlebotomy**

**TWO DAY COURSE**  
NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

BOOK ONLINE: [www.geopace.com](http://www.geopace.com)

Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Private Sector - Community - MOD

**CALL US NOW TO SAVE**  
**FREEPHONE 0800 146 540**

## Get Up to 100% For Your House - Fast!

- ✓ Any property. Any condition. Anywhere
- ✓ Get up to 100% of the market value
- ✓ Free valuation. Free consultation
- ✓ 100% Confidential. No obligation

**Fast Sale Maximum Value**

**The Property Ombudsman**

**Yellow Springbok**

**UP TO 100% PAID**

**SOLD**

**NO OBLIGATION FREE CONSULTATION**

24/7 Helpline **0800 092 5743**  
**01902 489 500**

**YellowSpringbok.co.uk**



full time - general

## Express &amp; Star

BE A LOCAL  
STARSales Relationship  
MerchandiserDo you have an eye for detail, are you  
self - motivated, enthusiastic and are able to  
communicate effectively and with confidence.The Express and Star are looking for a sales relationship merchandiser to join our  
team helping to grow audience, strengthen the relationship with retailers, readers  
and ensure the brand experience is positive.Working within a busy customer focused environment, the successful applicant will  
work as part of a team, in designated territories, you will be required to ensure that all our titles are available, in key strategic positions to maximise  
response and exposure.Previous sales or merchandising experience in the FMCG market is desirable,  
but not essential. The ability to react quickly and positively to a wide variety of  
situations is required. A professional attitude must be displayed at all times.  
You must have a full current driving licence, transport will be provided.In return we offer full training and support, an annual salary of £8,200, 25 days  
holiday per year and enrolment into the company pension scheme.  
The position is 20 hours per week working across 5 days between  
Monday-Saturday, weekends and Bank Holiday working will be  
required on a rota basis.

Closing Date: Friday 9th October 2015

If you would like to be considered for this role please send your cv and covering letter to:  
HR Department Midland News Association, Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES  
or by e-mail to: hr@mna-media.co.uk Closing date: Friday 9th October 20158  
Motoring

cars over £1500

BMW 325 Ti Compact, 51 plate,  
blue, good condition, £1,695.  
07815 098740.SELLING  
YOUR CAR?We have a package to  
suit every budget.  
Packages start from as  
little as£21.00 for 6 nights  
Plus  
6 nights free if you do not sell.CALL  
01902 317878CHEVROLET SPARK 1000, 2012,  
660 miles only, selling due to ill  
health. £4,000.00 offers  
01902 403724.CITROEN BERLINGO Multipurpose  
Desire, 07 reg, 1.6HDI, 75bhp,  
21,334 miles, FSH, met red, MoT  
June 2016, £4,500. 01384 394423.CITROEN C4 Picasso, 1.6, diesel, 7  
seater, 2007, MoT'd, low mileage,  
low miles for year. Great runner.  
£3,100 ono. 07838 659013.HYUNDAI COUPE Petrol, 2.7, 2006,  
silver, 24,000 miles, lady owner,  
MoT, Excellent condition, must be  
seen, £3,000.00. 01384 221275.MITSUBISHI SHOGUN FIELD  
3.2 TLRWB  
2006 reg, diesel, only 65,000 miles,  
this is a rare Manual,  
4x4, Sterling Silver, fitted Sat  
Nav, 7-seater, black leather,  
FSH. £6,250.00. n.o.  
Telephone 01902 724124.PEUGEOT 308Sport HDI, TD, 1.6,  
Dec 09, 5dr hatch, 28,000 miles,  
FSH, Immaculate. First viewer will  
buy. £7,850. 01902 894845.PEUGEOT 307 SW 1.6HDI Diesel  
5dr Estate, 56 reg, 125k, low mil,  
silver, main, maintained, must sell,  
quite safe. £1,599. 07813 166435.RANGE ROVER  
P38 model, 1999, 2.8TD,  
engine mileage 75,000 miles,  
vehicle mileage 144,000, in very  
good condition, 12 months  
MoT, 1 owner last 10 years.  
£22,600.  
07973 967985.

RENAULT CLIO 1.5

2009, 32,500 miles, dCi  
Dynamique, blue, diesel, abs,  
electric windows, air bags, fsh,  
MoT, central locking, pas,  
Stereo, CD, great mpg!

£3,750 ono

07973420791

SEAT Ibiza 1.4 SPORT, 2006, 5  
door, 63k, black, air con, alarm,  
excellent condition, MoT 2016,  
recent service, alloys, CD stereo,  
£2,250 ono. 07788 214350.SKODA OCTAVIA AUTO Diesel,  
Est, 2005, MoT'd, alloys, maroon,  
service history, Very good condition,  
£3,200.00. 07738 586148.VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi, 5dr,  
2007, 44,000 miles, black, immacu-  
late condition, £3,700.  
01746 765183.VAUXHALL CORSA  
SX1 1.2, 2009 (59), 39,000  
Miles, very good condition,  
c/a/c, h/m, e/w 12 months  
MoT, 17in Alloy, CD, abs, air  
bags and alarm, Lady owner.

£3,300 ono

01902791232

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE  
REMINDEDthat the Business Advertisements  
(Disclosure) Order of  
1977 requires that advertise-  
ments must clearly  
differentiate between Private  
and Trade.CITROEN PICASSO Desire 2.0HDI,  
diesel, 2004, alloys, air con, EV,  
CL, MoT, £950. 01902 783990.FIAT MULTIPLA 1.9D, 2001, MoT  
March 2016, 6-seater, CD player,  
new miles for year, drives excel-  
lent, £600 ono. 07460 853380.FIAT PUNTO 1.2, 02 reg, Full MoT,  
Service history, Cambelt changed,  
low miles for year. Great runner.  
£550. 07977 409132 after 5pm.FORD FIESTA FINESSE 1.25,  
2004, 76,000 miles, long MoT,  
silver, radio/CD, very good condi-  
tion, well maintained, ideal first car.  
£1,400 ono. 01384 393244.FORD KA  
2005, 64,500 miles, silver, abs,  
air bag, MoT, pas, stereo, CD.  
£775.  
07970 706338.FORD MONDEO LX, turbo diesel,  
2001, full MoT, excellent condition,  
£675. 07494 090052.JAGUARS TYPE 3.0 V6 SE, 5dr,  
11 months MoT, fsh, good looking  
motor, £1,000 no offers.  
01902 785453 (Wamptons).

KIA MAGENTIS SE

55 plate, automatic, petrol, 42k  
miles, blue grey leather, abs,  
electric windows/mirrors, air  
con, alarm, MoT, central  
locking, 2 owners, cruise  
control, immaculate.

£1,095 ono.

07985 551666.

MAZDA PREMACY Atlantis, 2001,  
X reg, 12 months MoT, AC, pas,  
EW, lowbar, excellent condition,  
£400. 07908 134083.MERCEDES C200 COMPRESSOR  
Elegance, 2001, fsh, full leather, 10  
months MoT, £1,400 ono.

Telephone 01902 782055.

PEUGEOT 307 LX  
2003, 107,000 miles, grey, air  
bag, air con, MoT, central  
locking, stereo, CD.

07773 925885.

RENAULT CLIO

07 reg, 10 months MoT, 1.4  
Dynamique, a/c, CD, radio,  
electric windows, service  
history, 109k miles, family  
owned, very good condition,  
Codsall.

£1,495 ono.

07772 004844.

RENAULT LAGUNA Estate, 1.9  
DCI, 54 plate, light blue, good con-  
dition, MoT, £850. 07815 098740.RENAULT MEGAN Scenic Dynamic  
1.5 TD, 04, 50+ mpg, MoT Septem-  
ber 2016, cheap tax, nice car, £795.  
07486 465406.RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC  
DIESEL 1.8 02 reg, MoT/Feb, good  
condition, £550.  
07903 435280.ROVER 1800 MGZS, 83,000 miles  
only, AA or RAC inspection  
welcome, lovely drive £600 ono.  
07543 919296.SUZUKI ALTO GL, yellow, 99cc,  
first registered 12.11.99, MoT  
2016, 91,000 miles, £400 ono.  
01384 441482.VW BEETLE 2002, 91,000 miles,  
silver, electric windows, long MoT,  
metallic paint, alloys, £1,095 ono.  
07754 557861.VW GOLF 02, 1.9TDI, 12 months  
MoT, well maintained, £1,250  
o.n.o. 07886 179984.VW POLO 1.2E 2005, (53 Reg),  
black, 3dr, low mileage 49k, full  
MoT, good condition, drives well,  
£1,250 ono. 07958 445720.

**BMA** Est. Here 25 Years  
**A WIDE RANGE OF  
CARS UNDER £1,000**  
02 Ford Focus Estate Metallic Blue £950  
X Plate Suzuki Wagoner R Red £795  
52 Toyota Celer Automatic Blue £950

**01902 490555**  
Dale Street, Bilston, WV14 7JY  
www.bma-motors.co.uk  
**OPEN EVERY DAY**

## classic cars

FORD CAPRI 1.6 SL 1983, 1 owner,  
40,000 miles, regularly serviced /  
garaged, sunshade roof, current  
MoT, £5,000 ono. 0121 4454452.WANTED, CLASSIC CARS. Private  
cash buyer. Instant cash settle-  
ment. Any age. Any condition.  
01630 652993 or 07773 462797.

## driving tuition

**Homer's**  
Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto,  
207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris.

10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50!  
2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered  
**MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS**  
MANUAL & AUTOMATIC  
AD/PO REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available.07970 200066 / 01562 870050  
01384 234954 / 0121 5640090  
01902 580065  
www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

## motorbikes

GENERIC ROC 49CC 2011, fsh, low  
mileage, MoT May 2016, lady  
owner. £350 good condition. 01902  
847310.SUZUKI BANDIT 650 56 reg, new  
chain and sprockets, new battery,  
full MoT, full service, 20k, £1,500.  
01384 250253.

## scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that  
it is an offence under the Scrap  
Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy  
scrap cars/metal for cash.

**MCB**  
TOP PRICES PAID FOR  
ALL SCRAP CARS,  
VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS  
Tel: 01902 408176  
1000's of parts  
available at all times  
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

**1st CHOICE**  
TOP PRICE PAID 4 SCRAP CARS!  
VANS! CAMPERS! MOT FAILURES!  
ANYTHING CONSIDERED, FREE COLLECTION  
WITHIN THE HOUR! 7 DAYS  
01902 562853  
07895 346811 - 24 hrs

**A B SPARES**  
Pays More  
All Scrap Cars & Vans Wanted  
Anything Considered  
Free Collection  
Scrap It Legally COD. Given Instant Payment.  
01902 403110 / 0121 525 5813 daytime  
01902 659775 evenings

ABC AUTO SALVAGE  
WANTED URGENT  
Scrap & MOT Failures Best  
Prices Paid ELV Registered  
Spares Always Available  
0121 557 0800 or 0121 557  
0400. Evening 07813 184611  
Oldbury Area.

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**alan reed cars**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**spares & accessories**  
BMW Z3 HARDTOP. Metallic black,  
including tinting kit. Excellent condition.  
£700. 01384 393244.

**accessories & services**  
MOBILE MECHANICS Service &  
repairs. Headgasket, clutches and  
cambelts. 07747 848469.

**mobile mechanics**  
MOBILE MECHANICS Service &  
repairs. Headgasket, clutches and  
cambelts. 07747 848469.

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**vehicles wanted**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid, HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
01562 711083 /  
07631 245313

**9**  
Local  
Information

**public & legal  
notices**

**LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES**  
For convenience you  
may fax any advertising  
requirements to  
**Marie Hogg on**  
**01902 713146**  
or email **marie.hogg@**  
**expressandstar.co.uk**  
(remember to include a  
name/contact number for  
confirmation of receipt)

**Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004  
(as amended)**  
**The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning)  
(England) Regulations 2012**  
**Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council**  
**Notice of consultation of Dudley Borough Development  
Strategy (Pre-Publication Modifications)**

The Dudley Borough Development Strategy is currently being prepared to  
guide development within the Borough up to 2026. It consists of local  
planning policies and site allocations across the Borough (excluding the  
town centres of Brimley Hill, Stourbridge, Halesowen and Dudley which  
have their own Area Action Plans) and, once adopted, will supersede the  
Dudley Unitary Development Plan (UDP).In 2014, Dudley Council consulted on a draft version (Preferred Options)  
of the document and, following consideration of the representations  
received, the Council has decided to consult on a number of proposed  
major changes prior to it being finalised which are specified within this  
latest Pre-Publication Modifications document.

The document is available for viewing until Wednesday 4 November 2015 at:

- Reception at 4 Ednam Road, Dudley, DY1 1HL  
(Mon to Fri 8.45am to 5.00pm)
- Dudley Council Plus, 259 Castle Street, Dudley, DY1 1LQ  
(Mon to Fri 8.30am to 5.00pm, Sat 9am to 12 noon)

- All main public libraries in the Dudley borough (opening times may vary)
- Online at [www.dudley.gov.uk/environment-planning/planning/local-development-framework](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/environment-planning/planning/local-development-framework)

Comments can be submitted via email to [localplan@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@dudley.gov.uk) or  
via post to: Strategic Planning Section, Dudley Council, 4 Ednam Road,  
Dudley, DY1 1HL.

Only comments made in writing by 4 November 2015 will be considered.

Comments should specify the matters to which they relate and the  
grounds on which they are made. They may be accompanied by a request  
to be notified of the adoption of the document.For more information call 01384 814136 or email [localplan@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@dudley.gov.uk)Alan Lunt  
Strategic Director - Place

**10**  
Personals

**MALE WIDOWER, 60's.**  
Self employed.  
Car and house owner.  
WLTW Lady for friendship and  
maybe more.  
Stourbridge and surrounding  
areas.  
Box Number P20062,  
Express and Star,  
Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**AT MANYANA** Gentlemen's Club,  
5\* customer rated-Mon-Fri 10-9pm.  
Sat-Sun: 10-11pm. 0121 472 7281.

**ATTENTION LADIES 40-55.**  
Please don't pass this advert  
by, read on and see I'm a  
genuine guy.  
52, slim, attractive, GSOH,  
romantic too, hoping for reply  
from a lady like you.  
Please write to:  
Box Number P20072,  
Express and Star,  
Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**MALE, 60**  
Sincere and caring, has lots of  
towing and TLC to give.  
WLTW similar female.  
Box Number P20061,  
Express and Star,  
Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**BILBROOK JPLS**  
Under 13's are looking for 3  
exceptional players for their  
squad this season. We're  
looking at ex-academy/centre of  
excellence level players, or  
those already playing at a high  
standard to join our elite level  
side. We play in one of the best  
leagues in the country against  
professional set ups every  
week. This is a great opportu-  
nity for talented players to  
showcase their skills. Please  
note this will have no impact on  
sunday football or the teams  
you currently play for.

**To book a trial please contact**  
**Mark on 07837 630590.**

**WOMBOURNE COLTS**  
**UNDER 13'S**

**Require new players who have**  
**previously played for other**  
**teams.**

**For more details please**  
**contact**

**Stuart on 07921 477710 or**  
**Simon on 07901 009188.**

**Stuart on 07921 477710 or**  
**Simon on 07901 009188.**

**Stuart on 07921 477710 or**  
**Simon on 07901 009188.**

**Stuart on 07921 477710 or**  
**Simon on 07901 009188.**

**Stuart on 07921 477710 or**  
**Simon on 07901 009188.**

**ROY IVAN MEARS**  
(Deceased)  
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any  
persons having a claim against or an interest  
in the Estate of the aforementioned  
deceased, late of 134 Barn Road, Cradley  
Heath West Midlands B64 7EZ, who died on  
11/08/2015, are required to send particulars  
thereof in writing to the undersigned on or  
before two months and one day from the  
date of this publication, after which date the  
Estate will be distributed having regard only  
to claims and interests of which they have  
had notice.  
LLOYDS BANK PRIVATE BANKING  
PO Box 800 234 High Street  
Exeter Devon EX1 9UR  
T452744

**SAMUEL HADLEY**  
(Deceased)  
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any  
persons having a claim against or an interest  
in the Estate of the aforementioned  
deceased, late of Trinity House Nursing Home  
Mace Street Cradley Heath B64 6HP, who died  
on 18/11/2014, are required to send  
particulars thereof in writing to the  
undersigned Solicitors on or before  
11/12/2015, after which date the  
Estate will be distributed having regard only  
to claims and interests of which they have  
had notice.  
GEORGE GREEN LLP  
195 High Street  
Cradley Heath B64 5HW  
T452543

**Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004  
(as amended)**  
**The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning)  
(England) Regulations 2012**  
**Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council**  
**Notice of consultation of Dudley Borough Development  
Strategy (Pre-Publication Modifications)**

The Dudley Borough Development Strategy is currently being prepared to  
guide development within the Borough up to 2026. It consists of local  
planning policies and site allocations across the Borough (excluding the  
town centres of Brimley Hill, Stourbridge, Halesowen and Dudley which  
have their own Area Action Plans) and, once adopted, will supersede the  
Dudley Unitary Development Plan (UDP).In 2014, Dudley Council consulted on a draft version (Preferred Options)  
of the document and, following consideration of the representations  
received, the Council has decided to consult on a number of proposed  
major changes prior to it being finalised which are specified within this  
latest Pre-Publication Modifications document.

The document is available for viewing until Wednesday 4 November 2015 at:

- Reception at 4 Ednam Road, Dudley, DY1 1HL  
(Mon to Fri 8.45am to 5.00pm)
- Dudley Council Plus, 259 Castle Street, Dudley, DY1 1LQ  
(Mon to Fri 8.30am to 5.00pm, Sat 9am to 12 noon)

- All main public libraries in the Dudley borough (opening times may vary)
- Online at [www.dudley.gov.uk/environment-planning/planning/local-development-framework](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/environment-planning/planning/local-development-framework)

Comments can be submitted via email to [localplan@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@dudley.gov.uk) or  
via post to: Strategic Planning Section, Dudley Council, 4 Ednam Road,  
Dudley, DY1 1HL.

Only comments made in writing by 4 November 2015 will be considered.

Comments should specify the matters to which they relate and the  
grounds on which they are made. They may be accompanied by a request  
to be notified of the adoption of the document.For more information call 01384 814136 or email [localplan@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@dudley.gov.uk)Alan Lunt  
Strategic Director - Place

**ATTENTION LADIES 40-55.**  
Please don't pass this advert  
by, read on and see I'm a  
genuine guy.  
52, slim, attractive, GSOH,  
romantic too, hoping for reply  
from a lady like you.  
Please write to:  
Box Number P20072,  
Express and Star,  
Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**MALE, 60**  
Sincere and caring, has lots of  
towing and TLC to give.  
WLTW similar female.  
Box Number P20061,  
Express and Star,  
Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**BILBROOK JPLS**  
Under 13's are looking for 3  
exceptional players for their  
squad this season. We're  
looking at ex-academy/centre of  
excellence level players, or  
those already playing at a high  
standard to join our elite level  
side. We play in one of the best  
leagues in the country against  
professional set ups every  
week. This is a great opportu-  
nity for talented players to  
showcase their skills. Please  
note this will have no impact on  
sunday football or the teams  
you currently play for.

**To book a trial please contact**  
**Mark on 07837 630590.**



# Mondeo man moves on up

By Bob Hickman

This year saw the arrival of the new Ford Mondeo, a car which has been around for a considerable time, but has now received a huge makeover with Ford's attempts to take it more upmarket – to perhaps attack the Audi A4 and BMW3 Series buyers.

It has a purpose in its design and does make a statement. The huge front grille area leaves no one in any doubt that this is the new Mondeo.

The interior of the vehicle was one of a well-honed, purpose-built package that does all it should do, nothing exciting, nothing to overwhelm you. The quality of the materials and the fittings all tick the relevant boxes because, after all, this is a Ford.

The wonderful eight-inch sync2 infotainment system is a delight and full of features. It had one feature that I had not come across before, my phone beeped when I was in a car park and I was able to read the text message on the screen. The system also allowed you to set the climate control and adjust music or to utilise the satnav system. However, I did find on occasions that I had to tap the screen some what severely to make it respond.

The amount of interior space is incredible. It seats five adults with ease, and the amount of room in the boot is absolutely superb, swallowing two full-size professional golf bags and trolleys, and a suitcase as well. I believe it would be possible to actually sleep in the boot if you are camping fanatic, it is so big.

One feature that the cabin had was ample storage space and drink and cup holders.

## Boon

My particular car had the £450 option of park assist and this has to be seen and tried to be believed. You drive along, press a button, the car spots a space on the left-hand side, tells you when to stop, engage reverse, take your hands off the steering wheel, and then just let the vehicle manoeuvre itself in to a parking space while you control the clutch and accelerator. It is an absolute boon, especially for those who do struggle with parallel parking.

There is a choice of five engines including a diminutive 1.1-litre Eco Boost. My particular derivative on test had an entry level 115ps 1.6-litre diesel engine which was somewhat lethargic – it really did need to be worked hard to get any performance. Although I have driven for many years I did stall it a few times in first gear, such was the gearing ratio.

Out on the open road it trundled along but the gearing again has been done for economy, fifth and sixth were an utter waste

of time unless you were doing at least 50mph. The six-speed manual gearbox was smooth and it was a delight to operate it but I feel for me a bigger engine was needed because after all the Mondeo is a big car.

The economics of this vehicle are excellent, with just 94g/km of CO<sub>2</sub> the tax bill will be zero.

Ford claim outlandish fuel figures which I won't even quote, suffice to say during my time with the vehicle and limited mileage, I achieved 50mpg around town and no long runs were entertained.

The Zetec is effectively an entry level but it came with 16in alloy wheels, power folding door mirrors, front fog lamps and an excellent DAB audio system. I particularly do like Ford's quick-clear heated front windscreen. A lot of other equipment is included as standard.

There is a lot to like about the new Mondeo, especially the improved exterior looks, but the winning factor for me is the interior space, not only in the cabin but in the boot. It really is a huge vehicle and if you have a family or four or five adults that travel together regularly it just has to be worth a look.

The derivative that I had on test had an on-the-road price of £22,095. Being a white vehicle, Ford decided to charge an extra £250, the navigational touchscreen system added £300. But the brilliant park assist system at £450, I think is a snip.



## The Famous Five

SAVE UP TO **£4205** ON **NU 65 REG** VAUXHALLS

New Vauxhall Models



### 1 New Vauxhall Corsa Sting

- Specification includes:
- Bluetooth® connectivity • 16" white alloys
  - Twin white stripes on bonnet, roof and tailgate
  - CD/MP3 CD player/stereo radio and aux-in socket • Cruise control

OUR PRICE ONLY

**£8495**



### 2 New Vauxhall Meriva Techline 1.4

- Specification includes:
- Electrically heated front seats
  - Front fog lights • 17-inch alloy wheels
  - Mobile phone system with Bluetooth® • Full body-colour door mirrors

LIST PRICE £13995

**SAVE £2500**  
**£11495**



### 3 New Vauxhall Astra GTC 1.4 Sport

- Specification includes:
- Daytime running lights • 18" seven-spoke alloys
  - CD 400 CD / MP3 CD player with stereo radio
  - DAB digital radio Cruise control • Air conditioning
  - USB connection with iPod control

LIST PRICE £19355

**SAVE £3360**  
**£15995**

PRICES EXCLUDE RFL



### 4 New Vauxhall Mokka Techline 1.6 Diesel

- Specification includes: Dual-zone Electronic Climate Control • Navi 950 satellite navigation system with CD, MP3 CD player and stereo radio • Cruise control

LIST PRICE £18404

**SAVE £1909**  
**£16495**



### 5 New Vauxhall Antara Diamond 2.2 Cdti

- Specification includes:
- ABS • Descent control system (DCS)
  - Traction control (TC) • Hill start assist (HSA)
  - Air conditioning • Electrically heated front seats
  - Bluetooth® connectivity • 17-inch alloy wheels

LIST PRICE £22200

**SAVE £4205**  
**£17995**

**DON'T MISS THESE FIVE NEW VAUXHALLS WITH SAVINGS THAT COULD MAKE US FAMOUS!**

#### Halesowen Motor House

Dudley Rd, Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3NH  
0121 503 0001 [www.halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk](http://www.halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk)

#### T Wall Garages

High Street, Pensnett, Kingswinford DY6 8XB  
01384 288333 [www.twall.co.uk](http://www.twall.co.uk)

#### Stourbridge Motor House

High Street, Amblecote, Nr. Stourbridge DY8 4DG  
01384 447970 [www.stourbridgemotorhouse.co.uk](http://www.stourbridgemotorhouse.co.uk)

#### Dudley Motor Company

Trindle Rd, Dudley, West Midlands DY2 7AY  
01384 454100 [www.dudleymotorco.co.uk](http://www.dudleymotorco.co.uk)



Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Highest: VAUXHALL Antara 5 Door SUV 2.2 CDTi 163PS Diamond FWD Stop/Start, M6: Urban: 37.2 (7.6), Extra-urban: 51.4 (5.5), Combined: 44.1 (6.4). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 167g/km Lowest: VAUXHALL Insignia 5 Door Hatchback 2.0 CDTi 140PS Limited Edition ecoFLEX Stop/Start, M6: Urban: 62.8 (4.5), Extra-urban: 88.3 (3.2), Combined: 76.3 (3.7). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 98g/km.

Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. Offers subject to availability, terms and conditions. Vehicles must be registered by 30th September 2015. Pictures for illustration purposes only.





## Tyres should be top priority

**DRIVERS in the UK are waiting until they are told they need new tyres before changing badly worn ones.**

A survey shows 3.6 million drivers say they only have new tyres fitted to their car when the tread fails the MOT.

Worn tyres require 40 per cent more stopping distance from 50mph in dry conditions, which is equivalent to eight car lengths. This increases even more on wet roads. By leaving the fitment of new tyres until the MOT, these drivers are risking not only lives, but a £2,500

fine and three penalty points on their driving licence.

The legal minimum tread depth is 1.6mm across three-quarters of the tyre's width. However, it is wise to switch to new tyres before the tread wears down to this minimum to preserve the braking, handling and steering of your car at its best.

Roger Griggs, communications director at Kwik-Fit, said: "With vehicles being increasingly sophisticated in monitoring their own maintenance intervals, drivers are often leaving it to their cars to warn them of potential issues. Motorists should realise that

responsibility for vehicle health and safety lies directly in their hands. Without proper care, motorists could land themselves either in legal trouble or in an incident on the road.

"Tyres should be the number one priority for drivers – after all, they are the only part of a car which keeps it on the road. Leading tyre manufacturers recommend that drivers change their tyres at 3mm of tread depth to maintain optimum performance. It's very worrying that so many drivers let their tread depth drop so low and leave it to the MOT to check – after all, that could be up to a year away."

<p><b>09/09 Vauxhall insignia 2.0 Elite Turbo Estate</b> Automatic, 58k, Sage Metallic, Alloys, Cream Leather, Climate Control, E/Windows <b>£7695 / £39 Per Week</b></p>	<p><b>09/09 Ford KA 1.2 Style</b> 3dr, 39k, Blue metallic, CD player, E/Windows <b>£4295 / £21 Per Week</b></p>
<p><b>07/07 Volvo V50 2.5 SE Lux D5 Estate Automatic</b> 67k, Blue Metallic, Alloys, Grey Leather, Climate Control, E/Windows <b>£6995 / £36 Per Week</b></p>	<p><b>08/58 Mitsubishi i-Car 659cc Turbo Automatic</b> *ONLY £30 ROAD TAX* 55 MPG, 45k, Blue, Alloys, Air Con, CD Player <b>£3995 / £19 Per Week</b></p>
<p><b>09/09 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec</b> 3dr, ONLY 26k MILES, Red Metallic, Alloys, Air con, CD, Heated ft screen <b>£6295 / £33 Per Week</b></p>	<p><b>07/57 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Ghia</b> 3dr, 53k, Violet, Alloys, Full Leather, Air Con, Heated Screen, CD <b>£3695 / £18 Per Week</b></p>
<p><b>09/09 Citroen Berlingo Multispace XTR 1.6 HDI Diesel</b> 61k, Silver, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£5695 / £27 Per Week</b></p>	<p><b>08/08 Ford Focus 1.6 Style 5dr</b> *ONE OWNER* 55k, Red, Air Conditioning, CD Player, Electric Windows <b>£3695 / £18 Per Week</b></p>
<p><b>07/57 Mini Cooper 1.6 With JCW Body Styling</b> 72k, Red/Black, Alloys, Red Leather Trim, Air Con, E/Windows, Fog Lights <b>£5695 / £27 Per Week</b></p>	<p><b>10/10 Chevrolet Spark 1.0 Plus</b> 43k, Silver, Air Con, CD, E/Windows, *Only £30 Road Tax* <b>£3495 / £17 Per Week</b></p>
<p><b>11/60 Vauxhall Meriva Exclusive 1.4 Turbo</b> 39k, Silver, Alloys, Air Con, CD Player, E/Windows <b>£5695 / £27 Per Week</b></p>	<p><b>07/57 Ford Fusion 1.4 Style Climate</b> 51k, Blue, *LOW INSURANCE* Air Con, CD, Climate Pack <b>£3495 / £21 Per Week</b></p>
<p><b>12/62 Citroen C3 Picasso VTR Plus 1.6 HDI Diesel</b> *ONLY £30 ROAD TAX* 112k, Red, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£4995 / £24 Per Week</b></p>	<p><b>07/56 Vauxhall Tigra 1.4 16V Exclusiv</b> 2dr Convertible, 47k, Miles, Silver, Alloys, Full Leather, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£3495 / £21 Per Week</b></p>
<p><b>06/06 Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.6 VVT +</b> 3dr 4WD *ONE OWNER* 56k, miles, Silver, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£4995 / £24 Per Week</b></p>	<p><b>06/56 Citroen Xsara Picasso 1.6 Exclusive</b> 44k, Silver, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£2995 / £18 Per Week</b></p>
<p><b>01/51 Landrover Discovery TD5 GS Diesel Automatic</b> 7 seater, 89k, Green, Alloys, E/Windows, Twin Sunroof <b>£4695 / £38 Per Week</b></p>	<p><b>07/07 Kia Picanto 1.0 Zipp</b> 5dr, 44k, Red, E/Sunroof, CD, E/Windows <b>£2695 / £16 Per Week</b></p>

Finance example: 10/10 Chevrolet Spark 1.0 plus, Cash Price £3495, Deposit £300, Amount of credit £3195, Fixed interest rate 6.25% Flat rate, 11.8% Apr, 60 Payments of £69.90 (£16.13 per week) Total amount payable £4793.44 (Includes £150 Document fee and £150 Completion fee, Subject to status)

**FINANCE AVAILABLE • PART EXCHANGE  
WARRANTIES AVAILABLE • WE BUY CARS**

**1 CROSS STREET, HALESOWEN B63 4RT  
Tel: 0121 501 3840  
www.halesowenautos.co.uk**

## CORBETTS MOTOR COMPANY

UNIT 1 CORBETT TRADING ESTATE, CINDER BANK, DUDLEY, DY2 9BG  
TEL: 01384 253666 EMAIL: gary.cmc@btconnect.com



### OVER 80 YEARS EXPERIENCE

1,000 MLS FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC Silver Metallic .....	<b>£10995</b>
3,000 MLS CITROEN C3 DIESEL AUTO SILVER METALLIC .....	<b>£7995</b>
3,000 MLS FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC Silver Metallic .....	<b>£9995</b>
5,000 MLS VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 EXCLUSIVE Beige Metallic .....	<b>£7995</b>
5,000 MLS VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 SE Grey Metallic .....	<b>£7995</b>
6,000 MLS PEUGEOT 108 ACTIVE Black Metallic .....	<b>£8995</b>
7,000 MLS VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 DESIGN Grey Metallic .....	<b>£8995</b>
7,000 MLS PEUGEOT 3008 ACTIVE DIESEL Grey Metallic .....	<b>£9995</b>
7,000 MLS VAUXHALL INSIGNIA SRI DIESEL Grey Metallic .....	<b>£10995</b>
7,000 MLS PEUGEOT 308 1.6 DIESEL Grey Metallic .....	<b>£7995</b>
7,000 MLS FORD FOCUS 1.6 ESTATE Red Metallic .....	<b>£9995</b>
7,000 MLS VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 Silver Metallic .....	<b>£7995</b>
8,000 MLS CITROEN C3 PICASSO EXCLUSIVE White .....	<b>£8995</b>
8,000 MLS VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 SRI Grey Metallic .....	<b>£8995</b>
9,000 MLS FORD FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC Black Metallic .....	<b>£8495</b>
9,000 MLS FORD C MAX 1.6 ZETEC Silver Metallic .....	<b>£9995</b>
10,000 MLS VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI SRI White .....	<b>£10995</b>
10,000 MLS VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI SRI SAT NAV Grey Metallic .....	<b>£10995</b>
11,000 MLS FORD MONDEO 1.6 ECO BOOST ZETEC BUS. ED. White .....	<b>£12995</b>



**WE SPECIALISE IN HELPING OUR  
CUSTOMERS GET THE CAR THEY  
WANT NO MATTER THEIR CREDIT  
HISTORY IS LIKE**

[www.corbettmotors.co.uk](http://www.corbettmotors.co.uk)

## LOW MILEAGE EX MOTABILITY SPECIALISTS



### TROUBLE WITH FINANCE ??



16,000 MLS NISSAN JUKE 1.6 VISIA White .....	<b>£9995</b>
16,000 MLS PEUGEOT 3008 ACCESS Silver Metallic .....	<b>£8995</b>
17,000 MLS FORD FIESTA 1.2 EDGE Silver Metallic .....	<b>£5995</b>
18,000 MLS FORD KUGA TITANIUM TDCI Gold Metallic .....	<b>£12995</b>
19,000 MLS NISSAN QASHQAI TD Beige Metallic .....	<b>£11995</b>
20,000 MLS HONDA CIVIC TYPE S Silver Metallic .....	<b>£4995</b>
20,000 MLS FORD FIESTA 1.6 TITANIUM Yellow Metallic .....	<b>£7995</b>
27,000 MLS RENAULT CLIO 1.2 Extreme Red .....	<b>£3995</b>
36,000 MLS VAUXHALL INSIGNIA CDTI ELITE AUTO Panacotta Metallic .....	<b>£9995</b>
49,000 LAND ROVER FREELANDER GS TD4 AUTO Silver Metallic .....	<b>£12995</b>

**JUST ARRIVED THIS WEEK JUST ARRIVED THIS WEEK**

3000 MLS ASTRA 1.6 ELITE White ,5dr .....	<b>£10995</b>
3000 MLS ASTRA 1.4 SRI White, 5 dr .....	<b>£9495</b>
7000 MLS PEUGEOT 208 ACTIVE 1.4 TD Pink Metallic .....	<b>£7995</b>
7000 MLS FORD B-MAX ZETEC Brown Metallic, 5dr .....	<b>£9995</b>
7000 MLS FIESTA ZETEC S 1.6 White, 3dr .....	<b>£9995</b>
18000 MLS FIESTA 5DR WHITE 1.25 ZETEC .....	<b>£6995</b>

**MANY MANY MORE TO CHOOSE FROM**

**FAMILY RUN BUSINESS  
NO PRESSURE SALES  
PLEASE COME AND HAVE A  
BROWSE AT YOUR LEISURE**







# It's the final countdown for Aston Martin DB9

By Matt Joy

There's a great number of new things on the horizon for Aston Martin; a new Bond film, a new generation of cars and a new partnership with AMG, all of which are brimming with promise for the British manufacturer.

These things are still to come however, and in the meantime, the car that began the Aston Martin rival has been refreshed.

This GT version is the final hurrah for the DB9, the V12 grand tourer that has best encapsulated the notion of a modern Aston Martin in the 21st Century. The GT receives unique alloy wheels, black detailing to the front and rear aerodynamic elements, black brake callipers and detail changes to the head and tail lights. The long-serving 6.0-litre engine gets a power boost too.

Given its age it is remarkable how little the DB9's shape has changed over the last decade, but that is a testament to just how pretty it was in the first place. The subtle enhancements of this GT version are just that; welcome, but just fresh icing on a delicious cake. The black-finished front splitter and rear diffuser are nice touches and the new wheels are a delight.

Those looks are still guaranteed to turn heads, which is part of the reason it has such a fantastic image. British, stylish and relatively discreet – just like a certain secret agent.

The DB9 is better than it used to be in this respect, although it's best suited to two adults with the possible occasional inclusion of a pair of small children.

## Occasion

It's a grand tourer in the traditional sense, so there's an intimate cabin for the two up front and 155 litres of space for your weekend luggage in the boot, and use the rear seats for odds and ends.

The latest infotainment upgrade is a welcome addition too, with better responses and more features than before.

The DB9 GT isn't just a high performance grand tourer, it is a car that delivers a genuine sense of occasion. Sliding behind the wheel into the beautifully finished cabin makes you feel special; firing up the V12 engine confirms it.

Driven sensibly, the DB9 GT is low effort and comfortable. The ride is well judged, keeping everything level and stable but filtering out road pimples, while the automatic gearbox marshals the huge amount of torque on offer. Squeeze the accelerator gently and there's a seemingly infinite amount of urge available, all delivered without any fuss.

Really press on and the DB9 GT is ready to play. It's a relatively big car but there's three damper settings and three for the stability control too, and should you be feeling brave and talented, it will play the hooligan. As fast (if not faster) than you could possibly need in the UK and beyond, it is a car that delights in so many ways.

The question of value operates in reverse when discussing a luxury car; it's not so much whether the car is worth the money, but how often does the car remind you how much it is worth? In the case of the DB9 GT, that is on a regular basis. The quality of the materials is superb; flawless stitching in the beautiful leather, glinting chrome and carpet you want to dig bare feet into. The short of it is you will never feel short-changed for your £140,000.

James Bond would buy one if he didn't get an Aston in his company car scheme, but for us mortals at least, the DB9 should either be in your underground garage or a poster on your bedroom wall. It's become an Aston Martin icon in its own lifetime, and while there is a new car on the horizon, it has some spectacularly large shoes to fill. There will be faint tears when it finally moves on.

This car summed up in a single word: Bewitching  
If this car was a sculpture mounted on a plinth in Trafalgar Square, it would get more salutes than Nolin.

Only 500 Yards From  
Merry Hill Shopping Center:



# OakGarage

Specialists In One Owner, Low Mileage,  
Full Service History, Ex Motability Vehicles

.co.uk



## Our Low Mileage Selection

62 Fiat Panda 1.2 Easy Red	Only 5000 Miles	£6,295
13 C3 1.6 Exclusive Silver	Only 5000 Miles	£7,995
62 Corsa 1.4 SE Auto Blue	Only 7000 Miles	£8,495
12 Zafira 1.7 CDTI Exclusiv Blue	Only 7000 Miles	£9,290
12 Ka 1.2 Edge Red	Only 7000 Miles	£6,295
62 C3 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Blue	Only 9000 Miles	£8,795
14 Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Blue	Only 9000 Miles	£9,495
10 Gr Modus 1.6 Dynam Auto Red	Only 11000 Miles	£5,295
12 C4 1.6 VTR+ Auto Silver	Only 11000 Miles	£7,495
62 Meriva 1.4 SE Silver	Only 12000 Miles	£7,995
14 VW Golf 2.0 TSI R DSG Blue	Only 12000 Miles	£29,495
11 Astra 1.6 Exclusiv Blue	Only 12000 Miles	£7,495

### Citroen

59 C2 1.4 VTS 3dr Silver 44k	£3,495
60 C3 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Red 21k	£7,495
12 C3 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Beige 29k	£7,795
57 C4 G Picasso 1.8 VTR+ Silver 62k	£4,295
13 C4 G Picasso 1.6 HDI Platinum Red 14k	£13,495
12 Berlingo 1.6 HDI VTR Black 36k	£7,495
12 Berlingo 1.6 HDI VTR+ EGS6 Iron Grey 17k	£8,495

### Ford

11 Fiesta 1.4 Titanium Green 23k	£7,495
60 Fiesta 1.6 TDCI Titanium 3dr Red 17k	£7,795
12 Fiesta 1.6 TDCI Zetec Ink Blue 23k	£8,295
09 Fiesta 1.6 TDCI Titanium 3dr Green 89k	£4,995
12 Focus 1.6 Zetec Auto White 34k	£8,595

### Nissan

58 Note 1.4 Visia Silver 63k	£3,695
10 Note 1.5 DCI N-Tec Black 16k	£6,995
62 Note 1.6 Acenta Auto Red 20k	£7,295
12 Note 1.6 Acenta Auto Blue 26k	£6,995
63 Navara 2.5 DCI Tekna Auto Silver 29k Plus VAT	£14,995

### Peugeot

12 207 1.4 HDI Active Blue 25k	£6,795
04 307 2.0 SE Auto Blue 54k	£2,495
12 308 1.6 HDI Active Shark Grey 41k	£6,995
61 3008 1.6 HDI Access Shark Grey 31k	£7,995
61 Bipper Tepee 1.3 HDI EGC Grey 18k	£6,295

Specialists In One Owner, Low Mileage,  
Full Service History, Ex Motability Vehicles

### Vauxhall

12 Meriva 1.4 SE Waterworld Blue 20k	£7,495
12 Meriva 1.4 SE Red 29k	£7,495
55 Astra 1.8 Club Auto Silver 57k	£2,495
12 Antara 2.2 CDTI Exc 163 Auto Black 23k	£12,495

### Other

09 BMW 318i 2.0 ES Touring Black 68k	£7,795
12 Chevrolet Orlando 1.8 LT Auto Silver 24k	£8,495
62 Chevrolet Orlando 1.8 LT Black 39k	£7,995
58 Chevrolet Lacetti 1.6 SX Est Silver 87k	£1,795
09 Fiat Bravo 1.4 Active Grey 54k	£3,495
12 Honda Civic 1.4 i-VTEC SE Red 20k	£8,995
12 Renault Clio 1.2 Dyn Tomtom 3dr Silver 32k	£5,695
59 Grand Espace 2.0 DCI Dyn S 150 Beige 41k	£7,995
53 Suzuki Jimny 1.3 J LX 3dr Blue 57k	£2,795
V Toyota Hi-Ace 3.0 Diesel Auto Silver 105k	£4,495
12 VW Polo 1.2 60 Match Black 55k	£6,795

## This Weeks Low Mileage Special

**Fiesta 1.25 Zetec  
2014 Reg**

**£9495**



**Air Con  
Bluetooth  
Alloy Wheels**

**Only 9000  
Miles**

**Sales Line Open Till 9pm  
Call Steve 07747633329**

Another 100 Low Mileage Cars Available Soon See Details At:

**www.oakgarage.co.uk**

Unit 1, Sterling Park, Brierley Hill Dy5 1TB

**Tel: 01384 75097**

Opening Times: Mon-Thu: 9-6, Fri-Sat: 9-5, Sun: 11-4



Come And See Us In  
The Combaw Centre Halesowen

## TESTED

**Aston Martin DB9 GT, £140,000**

**Engine:** 6.0-litre unit producing 540bhp and 457lb/ft of torque

**Transmission:** Six-speed automatic driving the rear wheels

**Performance:** Top speed 183mph, 0-62mph in 4.5 seconds

**Economy:** 19.8 mpg combined

**Emissions:** 333g/km of CO2



# Game for the Blues is won in second half

**Brentford 0 Blues 2**  
SECOND-HALF goals from Michael Morrison and Clayton Donaldson fired Birmingham to victory at Brentford and into the Championship top six.  
The win, Blues' first in four league games, made it a miserable start to management for former St Andrew's midfielder Lee Carsley, who took charge of the Bees following head coach Marinus Dijkhuizen's exit on Monday.  
The Republic of Ireland international has been handed the job until the end of the season after Dutchman Dijkhuizen left Griffin Park after just nine games in charge.  
And Carsley's side started with positive intent. Marco Djuricin should have tested Tomasz Kuszczak in the Birmingham goal twice before half-time only to shoot wide from inside the area and have a shot from a Jake Bidwell cross well saved.  
David Cotterill had the visitors' best chance of the half but his header was saved by David Button.  
Lasse Vibe and Demarai Gray both spurned good openings for either side after the interval before centre-back Morrison put the visitors ahead, rising at the back post to head in Cotterill's corner.  
Alan Judge struck the woodwork from the edge of the box as a helpless Kuszczak watched on, while at the other end Blues substitute Jacques Maghoma shot over from close range.  
But Donaldson finally sealed the points for Gary Rowett's side when he doubled the lead in stoppage time against his former club.  
The striker calmly lofted the ball over an onrushing Button.

# Runners are among the prizes haul

ATHLETES from Dudley Kingswinford Running Club were amongst the prizes again at the weekend as Rob Meredith claimed victory in the Norton 10k.  
He grabbed a personal best of 35.36, smashing the course record.  
He was joined by Graham Wildgoose, who, although a few minutes behind the winner, claimed second M50 in 42.06 placing 13th overall.  
A little further south Andy Fraser pulled on the vest to compete in the Cheltenham Half Marathon. Fraser stopped the clock in 2.13.16 to take 2,362nd place.  
Over the full marathon distance Dave Garbutt travelled to the Loch Ness Marathon. Garbutt came home in an admirable 4.28.49 to finish in 1,438th place earning himself a well-deserved rest.

# Questions over Wolves sale shock

THERE was silence from Molineux as the fallout from Steve Morgan's shock decision to sell the club continued.  
Speculation has been rife as to why Morgan has stepped down as chairman with immediate effect.  
It seems there questionsMorgan and Wolves need to answer.  
**1. Why now?** Morgan's timing, with fans already growing increasingly concerned at the team's indifferent start to the season, is questionable.  
It leaves the club in limbo off the field – and if the poor results continue it creates a perfect storm.  
**2. For what reason?** Personal reasons; a lack of support from fans; exasperation at Wolves' long-term underachievement; an unprofitable club; a split in the boardroom; ill health – all reasons suggested for Morgan's departure.  
Ex-Wolves star Andy Thompson thinks Morgan may simply have had enough.  
**3. At what price?** Morgan spent a tenner to buy Wolves from Sir Jack, on the promise of investing £30m in the club.  
But what price will Morgan command for his 100 per cent stake?  
Just down the road Albion were close to a recent £150m takeover.  
**4. What assurances for fans?** "Steve would like to relay to all concerned that his ongoing commitment and financial support to Wolves will continue until a new owner can be found," Wolves' bombshell statement said.  
Other than that? No assurances at all regarding the club's long-term future.  
**Steve 5. What next?** The search for a new owner is likely to be long and protracted.  
Wolves fan John Lalley suggested Morgan would find it hard to sell Wolves. He said: "It's difficult to make a football club work and he's going to find it very hard to sell in my eyes.Villa have been up for sale for months, not to mention West Brom."  
"Unless you are a very inviting proposal and in the Premier League, the odds are against you."

# Jordanne renews medal team up

**JORDANNE** Whiley renews her London 2012 bronze medal-winning partnership with Lucy Shuker in France after collecting her latest women's doubles title with Japan's Yui Kamiji over the weekend at the Sardinia Open in Italy.  
World No.4 in singles and world No.1 in doubles, Whiley contests her second ITF 1 Series event in successive weeks as she lines up alongside the world's top two ranked Dutch players Jiske Griffioen and Aniek van Koot in a stellar field at the Open de la Baie Somme in Rue. The tournament is set to host eight of the world's top ten women's players.  
Whiley's first tournament since beating van Koot and Kamiji to win her first Grand Slam singles title at the US Open began well for Halesowen's British No.1, who gained successive 6-0, 6-0 and 6-4, 6-3 wins over Turkey's Busra Un and South Africa's Kgothatso Montjane.

## Rematch

Faced with a rematch of her final in New York against Kamiji, Whiley's winning streak came to an end in the semi-finals in Sardinia as Kamiji earned a 7-6(6), 6-3 win, but the combined force of Whiley and Kamiji proved too much for their opposition in the doubles.  
The six time Grand Slam champions dropped just four games en route to the final and then edged out second seeds Montjane and van Koot 6-2, 3-6, (10-6) for their fifth title together this season.  
"I felt I didn't play great the whole tournament and I was disappointed with my singles result.  
"I was a bit too up and down and Yui played well and was the better player on the day," said Whiley.  
"But, of course, we love playing doubles together and obviously I'm very happy we got another doubles win under our belts, even if it was closer than we would have liked."  
Griffioen and van Koot, who have contested the last seven Grand Slam doubles final against Whiley and Kamiji will provide tough opposition in singles and doubles in Rue this week, where Kamiji is the only player in the world's top eight



Halesowen's Jordanne Whiley of Great Britain is re-uniting with Lucy Shuker

not in contention after returning to Japan. Whiley and Shuker are among four players on the Tennis Foundation's Wheelchair Tennis Performance Programme contesting this week's Open de la Baie de Somme, which is the last major tournament before next week's ranking cut-off for qualification for the year-end NEC Wheelchair Tennis Masters in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on 2-6 December.  
Recently Whiley made tennis history and admitted it was strange going up against Kamiji, with whom she has won six Grand Slam doubles titles.  
"It was so strange playing Yui as she's my best friend and we've achieved so much in doubles."  
In a game of fluctuating fortunes, Whiley saw an early break advantage disappear in the first set, only to regroup and take the last two games to seize the initiative. Kamiji then raced through the second set but Whiley returned with a renewed focus.

# We need to get over the Toffees, says Dawson

CRAIG Dawson has called on Albion to quickly move on from their Everton horror show as they turn attentions toward Saturday's trip to Crystal Palace.  
The Baggies blew a two-goal lead to lose 3-2 at home to the Toffees on Monday night and now face a Palace side sitting seventh in the Premier League.  
Yet Tony Pulis' men are unbeaten on the road in the league this term and yet to concede a goal away from the Hawthorns.  
Dawson, who admits they must learn from the mistakes made against Everton, nevertheless believes the lunchtime date at Selhurst Park provides the ideal chance for a quick response.  
"It was massively disappointing to lose the game (on Monday)," he said.  
"As a team we pride ourselves on clean sheets and defending well. To be two goals up and lose the game 3-2 is really disappointing."  
"We can't dwell on the result we have a tough game coming up on Saturday at Crystal Palace. We have to learn from our mistakes and get ready for the weekend."  
Albion will assess the fitness of Gareth McAuley after the defender missed the Everton defeat with a calf strain.  
The 35-year-old was this week named in Northern Ireland's squad for their upcoming Euro 2016 games with Greece and Finland.  
Boss Pulis has meanwhile been linked with a January move for Blues winger Demarai Gray.  
The 19-year-old is among a number of wide players understood to have been scouted by Albion.

# Team Dudley let lead slip away twice

**FC Stafford 5 Team Dudley 2**  
FC Stafford came from behind twice to run out easy winners and claim three Midland League Division One points.  
Dudley took the lead after only four minutes. A lack of communication between George Kirkland and Jon Warburton saw Nathan Jones calmly place his shot into the net.  
Stafford levelled when Charlie Marshall released Thomas Duffy and his effort across goal deflected into the net.  
Dudley went 2-1 up when Ryan Spittle volleyed home, but it was 2-2 at the break courtesy of a strike from Andy Willacy.  
But Rangers took charge in the second half with Duffy making it 3-2.  
Ben Smith fired into the roof of the net with Duffy adding the fifth.

# Final whistle

THE ONLY READ  
FOR REAL FANS  
EVERY MONDAY

If you want the definitive read on the weekend football action there is only one place to go – Final whistle supplement in the Express & Star.  
Packed with match reports, infographics and player reaction, Final whistle offers the best football coverage around. With expert analysis from star pundits like Kevin Phillips, as well as graphics of the key moments, tables and stats, make sure you get your copy.  
**A real football read for real football fans.**

TO ADVERTISE IN FINAL WHISTLE CALL OUR  
EXPERIENCED SALES TEAM ON 01902 31 31 31

An Express & Star supplement

**Express & Star**



# Sport

Questions in Wolves  
for sale shock

Page 35

Jordanne rejoins  
medal mate

Page 35



SPORTS DESK 01902 319531

CHRON.SPORT@EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK

## High five as Cradley show class

Tipton Town 0 Cradley Town 5

CRADLEY Town boosted their West Midlands Premier Division title hope with a resounding 5-0 success at Tipton Town.

Following their 3-0 home victory over Tipton just a couple of weeks ago, second-placed Cradley underlined their superiority with another comprehensive display.

Tipton manager Paul Totney had pulled off a coup by re-signing their ace goal-getter of some five or so years ago, Ravi Sangha, but chances were few and far between for the hosts.

Cradley, in truth, dominated much of the proceedings, the general momentum of play being in favour of the visitors although Tipton did have some good passages of pressure.

However, on 18 minutes, the visitors fashioned a sustained attack which ended with Bill Tibbetts putting them into the lead when he netted from close range.

After a Tipton rally that saw Sangha just fail to beat Cradley keeper Shaun Edwards, the visitors forged further ahead. Adam Meachem was the man on target with a 20-yard strike that gave home keeper Josh Morgan no chance.

A good response from Tipton saw Sangha and Damien Jarrett test Edwards before the visitors virtually clinched the points with a third goal right on half-time through Lewis Clarke.

Tipton's much younger side started to flag a little although Shane Grainger was unlucky not to reduce the arrears.

Back surged Cradley, with Meachem scoring again to make it 4-0. Cradley went nap in the 87th minute when Trevor Wassell turned Tibbetts's low cross into the net.

## Walker is looking to make it big in the ring as a pro

ROOKIE fighter Luke Walker is dreaming big as he embarks on a career as a professional boxer.

The Birmingham fighter has turned his back on white collar boxing to pursue his ambitions in the licensed ranks and is aiming high ahead of his debut at Walsall Town Hall next month.

The light middleweight, who makes his bow against Yeovil's Bryn Wain on Black Country Boxing's 3rd October show, told UKO Boxing:

"I'm at the very, very early stage, obviously, but I'm dreaming big and thinking of big, big bouts.

"I'd love to go for all the belts I can. I'd love the British, that Lonsdale belt, and to move on to European and world levels.

"If I'm going to do this, I might as well aim high and go for it. That's the dream. I want to go to America for good sparring and hopefully getting big fights out there too. That's what I'm aiming for."

Walker, who will be trained by his father, Ian, has plenty of experience in the ring having boxed on white collar shows before taking the plunge.

For tickets call 0845 111 2900.

## Old Hales face and overcome challenge

Peterborough Lions 22 Old Halesonians 25  
PERFECT pitch and weather conditions made for an open running game.

After four minutes Hales were penalised and were soon three points down.

It was the Lions turn to be penalised after six minutes, Full Back Chris Hooper converted to tie. In his own 22 Hooper set off with the opposition in pursuit, he was supported by Wing Joe Oxford but managed to keep his pace to score under the posts and converted for a lead.

Lions scored next in the corner, but it went unconverted.

Despite valiant tackling as usual by flanker

Rugby

Tom Jordan, Owen Jones, Rayner and Taylor the home side were dictating the game. On 39 minutes the Lions broke the Hales defence for a converted try and the lead.

Power

In the second half Hales continued to dominate in the set scrum but Lions made more of their forward rolling maul power.

On 65 minutes one such move by their forwards towards the Hales line resulted in a penalty try awarded to Lions. The home side converted to

lead 22-10 with 15 minutes left. Andy Robinson-glided through untouched for a try, converted by Hooper.

On 75 minutes winger Reid sprinted for his debut try, to tie the scores.

Peterborough were not to be outdone and worked their way back into the Hales half.

More pressure and Hales were penalised for a high tackle. The usually consistent Lions kicker missed.

From the restart, Lions were penalised, Hooper kicked for a line out. Hooper stepped up to take the last kick of the game from wide out. He split the uprights to win.

# YELTZ STREAK GETS BROKEN

Salford 3 Halesowen 1

**HALESOWEN'S run of three winning league games in a row came to an end at Salford.**

The home side started like an express train, putting pressure on Halesowen right away.

They took the lead on only two minutes when James Poole saw his shot saved by Matt Sargeant but Richie Allen headed in the rebound.

Chris Lynch then had a shot cleared off the line after he picked the ball up from a corner and Poole tried to lob Sargeant but the ball landed on top of the net.

Allen made it two before half time when he was strong in possession as the Halesowen defence tried to push him off the ball and curled a shot into the corner of the net.

He almost completed his hat-trick on 55 minutes but Sargeant managed to block it.

If Salford thought they were going to run away with the game they had to think again on 65 minutes when Danny Bragoli reduced the deficit.

But the home side were still on top, with Jordan Hulme and Lewis Hardcastle going close.

It took substitute Joe Mwasele to settle the issue though with a neat finish in injury time.

**FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round  
Halesowen 0 Nuneaton Town 2**

Halesowen's interest in this season's FA Cup ended after National League North Nuneaton Town grabbed two second half goals.

But the outcome may have been different if a 61st minute screamer from Greg Pearson had not struck the post with Nuneaton goalkeeper Jordan Smith beaten.

Manager John Hill also hailed Halesowen's great effort against a full-time team with just small margins determining the result.

Aaron Williams had a 16th minute effort ruled out for offside for the Boro after Elliott Whitehouse's shot was parried by home goalkeeper Matt Sargeant.

But the Yeltz more than held their own in a goal-less first half as Pearson glanced a header two minutes later.

Nuneaton took the lead when Aaron Williams nodded home.

However, the Boro made the tie safe when Whitehouse placed a shot into the top corner.

## Old boy Lukaku is Albion bane



Everton's James McCarthy takes a dive in the box earning himself a yellow card

Albion 2 Everton 3

After some frustrating games at The Hawthorns, the Baggies became involved in what was a horror, rather than a thriller, as they blew a two-goal lead and lost to Everton.

It was a former Albion favourite, Romelu Lukaku, who played the starring role as he started and finished the Toffees' dramatic second-half comeback.

Goals from Saido Berahino and Craig Dawson had put the hosts two to the good either side of half-time.

Lukaku gave Everton hope with a header, provided the pass for Arouna Kone to level

and then, through what was almost sheer bloody-mindedness, bundled home the winner. four minutes before the break Berahino to lifted the ball over the advancing keeper.

In the second half Dawson met Brunt's delivery to put the hosts two up.

Yet just 60 seconds later Everton were back in it as Lukaku rose above Chester to head home Deulofeu's cross.

It proved a pivotal moment as Lukaku slid in Kone to level with a shot into the bottom corner from eight yards out.

Six minutes from time, Lukaku had the final word as he pounced on more hesitation in the Baggies backline to poke home.

## Tivs come to the four to grab win

Tivdale 4 Belper 2

TIVDALE climbed off the bottom of Evo-Stik Northern Premier First Division South with a much-needed 4-2 success against Belper Town.

The hosts struck on 21 minutes when Mark Danks rifled home following a corner from Ashley Jackson. The game was end-to-end from the kick off with Tivdale having the first chance on two minutes when Ashley Jackson cut in from the right flank but his shot went straight at Belper keeper Danny Haystead.

Belper then had two great chances to take the lead. First on 18 minutes Tom Liveredge just failed to get anything on a Stevenson cross. Then a minute later full back Sam Purcicoe found himself in space in the penalty area and one on one with Turner. But he fired wide.

Tivdale went ahead when Jackson fired in a corner to the near post and Mark Danks rifled it home via the underside of the cross bar.

Tivdale's defensive frailties resurfaced when they were unable to clear their lines and Jonathon Williams played in Ben Fairclough to score.

On the stroke of half time Tivdale were back in front. Chris Sterling slid the ball into Rabone and this time he made no mistake.

It was only eight minutes after the restart that Belper were level again. Evan Garnett split the Tivdale defence and fired past Turner.

Three minutes later the home side had restored their lead. This time Rabone played in Sterling to score.

Tivdale were reduced to 10 and were forced to defend their lead. Tivdale rounded off the afternoon with a fourth goal on 88 minutes.

Tivdale substitute Demetri Brown held off his marker cut back inside and curled a brilliant right foot shot in.

## Boss tells Grealish call-up can wait

TIM Sherwood wants Jack Grealish to concentrate on his performances for Villa after the midfielder pledged his international future to England.

Solihull-born Grealish this week announced he wanted to make himself available to the country of his birth instead of the Republic of Ireland, who he represented at youth level because he has Irish-born grandparents.

But Sherwood wants to see the young player continue to improve in the Premier League, insisting if he does that then the England call-up will look after itself.

"He has loads of potential."

★★★

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketter, Telford, Thursday, October 1, 2015

NEWSPAPERS  
SUPPORT RE-  
CYCLING  
The recycled  
content  
of newspapers in  
2014 was 78.5%



# 10% OFF

phone sales, repairs and accessories with  
this advert or quoting Halesowen Chronicle

## Mobile Phone Damaged?

- All phone screens & laptops repaired on site
- iPhone 4, 5, 6 and iPad repairs carried out by a fully qualified iTechnician
- Fast, efficient and reliable same-day service

Talk n Talk Mobiles & Repair Centre 81 Great Bridge, Tipton DY4 7AY Tel: 07825 414759

